

Fabians

THE NEWS



Members of the Outset youth service group felling and clearing dead in Wimbledon Common. These "Wombles" have also assisted in learning in a study and work course.

Earlier retirement key Liberal jobs plan

General Party leaders yesterday announced details of a plan on which the party's election strategy on unemployment is based. The plan, set out in a document, *We Must Unemployment*, suggests the retirement of five years' "parental" husbands or wives, the policy of shorter hours, and big increases in overtime pay. The plan also suggests further help for high added-value areas of manufacturing, although fewer people would be employed as a result of automation; greater recognition for service industries; and more development of small businesses and co-operatives.

It calls for the extraction of more people from long hours in dull, repetitive jobs and a revolution in education and training, which Mr. Bingham said was chronically and dangerously out of date.

Active steps should be taken to channel those made redundant into small businesses or other worthwhile activities, instead of concentrating on giving them state benefits.

Previous actuarial investigations into earlier retirement had ignored savings through producing more gainful employment for young people, instead of their being paid unemployment money while older people held jobs which they would prefer to retire from.

Breakaway Lincoln party not to fight seat

By a Staff Reporter
Lincoln Democratic Labour Association, the breakaway party of Mr. Dick Taverne, QC, the former Labour MP for the constituency, has decided not to field a candidate there in a general election in the autumn.

Mr. Taverne was the seat as a Social Democrat at a by-election in 1973 after splitting with Labour, and lost it by 384 votes in October, 1974. The association last night refused to explain its decision, which has puzzled and surprised local politicians, and is causing some confusion among association supporters.

The association still controls the city council, and was considered to be in an excellent position to launch an attack on Labour's slender majority. Mr. Taverne announced some time ago that he would not stand again, but it is understood that a replacement had been chosen.

A brief announcement from the association did not clarify whether it would field a candidate for an election at a time other than in the autumn.

There have been difficulties within the association recently. The chairman resigned and joined the Liberals, who had advocated that the association should join forces with the Liberals. The association rejected the proposal.

Last night it was understood that news of the decision to opt out of an autumn election, a decision taken behind closed doors, was leaked to the press by Lincoln Liberals.

At the last election the Liberal Party did not contest the seat and the Conservatives in third place and only about 2,400 votes behind Labour, must consider themselves well placed. There will be considerable speculation about who will win the electoral affections of those who voted for Mr. Taverne last time.

Two young men get life for youths' deaths

Two young men who knifed two youths to death in a school playground were jailed for life with 15 years' minimum term, the High Court, Glasgow, has ruled.

Edward Penman, aged 19, and Robert McGarvey, aged 18, were found guilty of murdering Gerard McMillen, aged 15, of Knowmad Crescent, Dumbarton, and Paul Flaherty, aged 18, of Cumbray Crescent South, Dumbarton.

Mr. McMillen Campbell, for the prosecution, said that the accused left a party and were crossing St. Patrick's High School playground, Dumbarton, when they met McMillen and Flaherty.

McGarvey, of Royston Road, Glasgow, said that he was attacked and pulled a steak knife from his trousers to frighten off McMillen.

He said he saw Penman, of Tharist Street, Glasgow, with what appeared to be a knife in his hand struggling with Flaherty, who collapsed. Penman admitted kicking and punching Flaherty, but denied he had a knife.

Wagner diaries
Cosima Wagner, mistress and eventually wife of the composer, believed in his passionately. In the 21 volumes of her diaries, which have lain in a Munich bank unopened for 30 years, she recorded Richard's every word and deed. Now at last the diaries are to be published in Britain. The first long extract appears in the Sunday Times tomorrow.

WEST EUROPE AND OVERSEAS

French face austerity budget as growth falls below forecast

From Ian Murray
Paris, Aug 25
President Giscard d'Estaing and M. Barre, the Prime Minister, met the two ministers principally concerned with the economy, M. René Monory and M. Maurice Papon, this morning to discuss the main guidelines for next year's budget.

Although the details are unlikely to be known until the week after next it is already clear that the government is almost certain, even though a budget deficit is envisaged for the second year running, that the determining factor is that France's growth rate this year will be little more than 1 per cent, instead of a predicted 4.5 per cent. This means that the planned budget deficit of 8,500m francs (£1,050m) will be near 20,000m francs.

The President said during today's meeting that the budget would have to reconcile the two elements of healthy management of public finance with support of an active economy "in keeping with the conclusions of the Bonn summit". An austerity budget is therefore certain, and the deficit will almost certainly be covered by savings and not by creating new money.

In its election manifesto the Government promised that there would be a "tax pause". The room for manoeuvre is therefore not great.

M. Barre, who will tomorrow celebrate the second anniversary of being appointed Prime Minister, is taking the opportunity of a series of short visits into the country to expound his views on the economy and the task that he sees ahead.

At Cherbourg, the Yonne yesterday he showed the tough way he is thinking. Regarding unemployment, which at 4.5 per cent threatens to be the Government's biggest economic problem, he said: "I refuse to equate job seekers with the unemployed. That is part of the myth that must be destroyed."

He said that while on holiday in south-eastern France he had noticed that there were vacancies everywhere and only a few willing to fill them. A vocational training centre had been opened but hardly anyone had registered for courses. "And yet they would have us believe that France is a country which is tottering under unemployment."

M. Barre's second point involved administrative over-spending. While it was necessary to ensure economic progress, it was impossible to do so in an inflationary climate. At every level from ministries down to local communities the people in authority had to show moderation in spending.

M Chirac sees that Paris remembers its liberation

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Aug 25
Flags were hoisted on buildings all over Paris today to celebrate the thirty-fourth anniversary of the liberation of the city from the Germans.

Small ceremonies took place here and there in the capital, with the detachment of the band of the Paris police sounding the musical honours.

At the town hall, where the mayors of New York, Moscow, Warsaw, Coventry, Bristol and Brussels are all guests, there was a ceremony of preparation for the evening's son et lumière show.

Bunches of flowers and little wreaths appeared by the 473 marble plaques all over the city which mark the places where resistance fighters died during the liberation.

The thirty-fourth anniversary is nothing special in itself, but now that M. Jacques Chirac is mayor of Paris he intends to make the anniversary an important date in the calendar. This year he has invited mayors from countries which were allies during the war to the ceremony.

He went on television earlier this week with his two most illustrious guests, Mr. Edward Koch, mayor of New York and Mr. Vladimir Promyslov, mayor of Moscow, and said this meeting would give the mayors a chance to exchange views on the common problems facing large cities, such as social, economic and cultural links.

The three American balloons, which made their first crossing of the Atlantic, have been swept up in some of the activity, with a presentation of medals from M. Chirac in addition to the one from M. Joël Le Tieule, Minister of France, and a cup from the Aéroclub de Paris. They left for New York this morning by Concorde.

The main ceremonies for the mayors were reserved for today. M. Chirac took part in four wreath-laying ceremonies. Although the mayor of Moscow was not present, the mayor of the Citroën factories, all were present for the final ceremonies in the evening before the plaque near Montparnasse station marking the spot where the German command in Paris formally surrendered.

Date fixed for Menten war crimes retrial

From Our Own Correspondent
Amsterdam, Aug 25
A new trial of Pieter Nicolaas Menten, the 79-year-old millionaire art collector, for war crimes will start on September 10.

He was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by an Amsterdam court last December for his part in the mass execution of Polish nationals, mainly Jews, in the village of Wroclaw, in 1941, and was acquitted of taking part in another massacre in the nearby village of Urlich in the same year.

The Dutch Supreme Court, however, quashed his conviction, ruling that the judges had paid insufficient attention to the question of whether he had been tried for the same offence 30 years ago.

In 1949 Mr. Menten was sentenced to eight months' imprisonment for collecting and selling stolen art objects. He received an undertaking in 1952 from the Minister of Justice that he would not be prosecuted on the mass murder charges.

The new trial will result in an only known survivor on the trial, the one who received such an undertaking.

Italian publishing groups merge to restore profits

From John Earle
Rome, Aug 25
The publishing firm of Rizzoli Editore plans to incorporate directly the Milan newspaper group of Corriere della Sera, which it already controls, under a rationalization plan to achieve the financial recovery of both.

The move was announced in a statement to the Milan economic daily newspaper 24 Ore today by Signor Bruno Tassan Din, director-general of Rizzoli.

Though the financial position of Rizzoli and the Corriere remains difficult, Signor Tassan Din said it was improving, and he expected both to show small profits this year.

Rizzoli, after two years of losses, could be the equivalent of about £1.2m, while that of the Corriere could be anywhere from a few hundred thousand to £1.8m.

The Corriere della Sera group reported a loss in 1977 of £3.8m which, however, was under half the 1976 figure. Losses accumulated in the past four years amounted to £24.4m. At the end of 1977 the group had liabilities of £42.2m, of which no less than £14m was owing to social insurance institutes.

With a circulation of 670,000, the Milan-based Corriere della Sera is Italy's nearest approach to a national daily newspaper. The group also includes an evening paper, a sports daily and various magazines.

Rizzoli Editore, owned 51 per cent by the Rizzoli family and 49 per cent by the Rothschild Bank of Zurich, is the biggest group of its kind in Italy, with interests in publishing, magazines, newspapers, television and motion pictures. It reported a loss last year of £4.3m.

The 1977 balance sheet showed a long-term debt of £18m and a short-term bank indebtedness of £24.2m.

Helicopter explodes

Grafenwoehr, West Germany, Aug 25—Three soldiers of the United States First Armoured Division were killed when a helicopter apparently exploded in flight, an army spokesman said.

Collision inquiry will ask why ship sank so quickly

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Aug 25
An inquiry that opened in Rouen today will try to establish why the British coaster Mary Weston sank so quickly after a collision with an Ivory Coast cargo ship 16 miles down the river.

Both ships had left Rouen just over an hour before the collision occurred, with the smaller ship, the Mary Weston, in front. As they rounded a bend in the Seine the cargo ship, the Yacasse, moved out to overtake. It was then doing about 12 knots.

The change at that point is more than 200 yards, and the Mary Weston was in the middle of the bend when the collision occurred. The Mary Weston was not powerful enough to free the ship's masts and superstructure which were stuck in the river bed.

It was, however, possible to cut the hull sufficiently to cut a hole into the engine room and free the body of one man trapped there.

Work on the wreck today has concentrated on trying to shift it to the side of the river, since it is a hazard to navigation. The ship was down to 20 yards.

The rescue teams no longer have any hope of finding men inside the hull alive.

known of any danger was when he was lured off the bridge with the promise of the collection of the Mary Weston turned turtle and began to sink within a minute, giving the crew of four below decks no chance of escaping. One theory on the cause of the collision was that the crew of five is thought to have survived.

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Confusion over Canadian Government's intentions

Monarchy becomes an emotional issue in Trudeau plan

From John Best
Ottawa, Aug 25
What may be the sharpest controversy ever on the future of the monarchy in Canada is developing as the Government pushes ahead with its grandiose plan to resolve all of Canada's deeply-embedded constitutional anomalies.

The issue of the monarchy has become easily the most emotional part of the whole, deeply divisive constitutional reform programme which Mr. Trudeau, the Prime Minister, presented to the country two months ago.

The two-stage programme aims at giving Canada a complete, home-grown constitution in 1981, which is 50 years since the country obtained total independence under the 1931 Statute of Westminster. The constitution, the British North America Act passed in 1867 by the British Parliament, has remained in Westminster because of disputes within Canada over repatriation and amending formulae.

The fierce over the Crown has been made more intense by confusion and uncertainty as to the Government's intentions. Despite repeated assurances to the contrary by government spokesmen, opposition critics insist that the effect of the legislation now before Parliament would be to replace the Queen by the Governor-General as head of state.

This has brought howls of outrage from monarchists, many of whom were doubly incensed because by ill-luck or bad government management the monarchy was just beginning to take flight when the Queen visited Canada to open the Commonwealth Games at Edmonton.

Those who have attacked the Government's policy range from Mr. John A. Macdonald, former Prime Minister of the monarchy's stoutest defender, to the 10 provincial premiers, and to letters-to-the-editor writers. One letter to the *Ottawa Journal* gave warning of "insurrection on a massive scale" should the monarchy be weakened or abolished.

Supporters have shown that the majority of English-speaking Canadians support the monarchy, while most French-speaking Canadians favour getting rid of it. Within either group, however, there are cross-currents of dissent.

The powerful Canadian Bar Association, for instance, heavily dominated by lawyers from English Canada, proposed last week that the monarch be replaced by an elected Canadian head of state. (The suggestion was denounced by Mr. Diefenbaker as "a lot of hypothetical nonsense.")

Opponents of Mr. Trudeau's initiative are not confined to the monarchy. They include many Canadians who feel simply that the country has enough pressing problems now—mainly economic—without getting into a bitterly divisive wrangle over the positions of the Queen and Governor-General.

This feeling was reflected in a statement by Mr. Claude Ryan, Liberal Party leader in Quebec, that the Government had a good chance of becoming the next Premier of the French-speaking province.

"The monarchy is not an important topic in the field of constitutional reform," Mr. Ryan said in Montreal last weekend. "In the end there will have to be some sort of package deal where everybody will have to make concessions. For the moment, there are more important questions to be settled than the role of the Queen under the new constitution."

Mr. René Levesque, Premier of Quebec, is among those opposing Mr. Trudeau's plan, not because he thinks it would downgrade the Queen but because he, like other provincial premiers, feels it would indirectly increase federal powers at the expense of the provinces.

Under the government legislation, the Queen would be designated "sovereign head of Canada." She would exercise her traditional functions and authority while in Canada. When she is not in Canada the Governor-General would exercise them—under procedures laid down in the constitution, rather than solely as the Queen's representative.

The Governor-General would assent alone to new legislation and not as a present in the name of the Queen. Parliament would be made up of the House of Commons and a new House of the Federation, replacing the present Senate, plus the Governor-General.

The Queen would not be involved. The suspicion that the Government intends to replace the Queen as head of state is thus clearly not borne out by the wording of the Bill. It is more a feeling that this would be the ultimate, de facto result.

Mr. Trudeau's constitutional package deals with more tangible matters than the role of the monarch in Canada's constitutional system. For instance, it provides for an overhaul of the membership of the Supreme Court of Canada and the Upper House of Parliament, as well as laying down strict rules for voting on language matters in both Houses of Parliament.

But the emotion-packed question of the monarchy may cause him as much trouble as any other. Mr. Trudeau is aiming to push through the present legislation—dealing with matters which, he claims, are under exclusively federal jurisdiction—by next July 1.

With an election coming on either this autumn or in the spring, and with Canadians concerned primarily with their country's bleak economic situation, he is clearly taking a big gamble in tackling the constitutional issue at all.

Village strafed accidentally by Starfighter

Seeburg, West Germany, Aug 25—An electrical short circuit caused an F104 Star fighter to fire its cannon accidentally into the village of Seeburg during an approach run at a practice target, a West German Air Force spokesman said today.

Five 20mm practice rounds from the Starfighter hit a barn and a street yesterday.

The official spokesman on Monday said the accident occurred on Tuesday. The new Government will then have 10 days to submit its programme to a debate in Parliament.

Speaking to reporters after seeing the President, he said: "I wish I had 20 days in which to present my programme after the Government had been elected. This Government will go to Parliament with much greater possibilities of not being approved than the previous ones."

He added that if his Government failed to pass the Assembly he would have to try again, and rejected suggestions that he would survive in Parliament next month.

He said the Cabinet would be officially appointed on Monday and sworn in on Tuesday. The new Government will then have 10 days to submit its programme to a debate in Parliament.

Lisbon fears that Cabinet list may be rejected

Lisbon, Aug 25—Senior Alfredo Nobre de Costa, the Portuguese Prime Minister-designate, today submitted his Cabinet list to President Antonio Ramalho Eanes, but appeared doubtful later that it would survive in Parliament next month.

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German court treads warily over extradition

From Our Own Correspondent
Berlin, Aug 25
The Federal Court of Karlsruhe ruled yesterday that in principle membership of a terrorist organization alone did not permit the conclusion that a suspect person took part in crimes committed by the group.

The court in Hamm will have to decide on the basis of that ruling whether to extradite Damir Petric, one of eight Croats whose extradition was requested by Yugoslavia.

The Karlsruhe court ruled that extradition was permissible only for crimes entailing a penalty of at least one year's imprisonment. Membership of a terrorist association was not a crime but an offence.

The Yugoslav authorities accused Mr. Petric of belonging to the Revolutionary Brotherhood which is forbidden in both Yugoslavia and the German Federal Republic. They did not accuse him, however, of having taken part in any crime.

Polar explorer trapped without food

Narsarsuaq, Greenland, Aug 25—A Japanese explorer journeying from the north to the south of Greenland radioed into this south Greenland air traffic centre last night to say that he was eating the last of his food and was unable to go on.

Mr. Naomichi Uemura said he was stranded on the top of a 7,500ft glacier 50 miles from here near the end of his planned route.

"I am unable to go on because of the deep crevasses in the glacier. It would mean death to start the descent, both for me and my dog."

Mr. Uemura left the northern tip of Greenland last spring with a dog team and sled in an attempt to become the first man to cross the 1,875-mile ice-cap from end to end.

Swedish manager set free in El Salvador

San Salvador, Aug 25—El Salvador guerrillas have released the manager of Sweden's L. M. Ericsson telephone company, kidnapped here 10 days ago.

The Armed Forces of National Resistance gunmen freed Mr. Kjell Björk, 37, on the condition that several of their political declarations be published by newspapers in Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Sweden and Japan.

Mr. Björk said he was treated well. "I had the food I wanted, slept in a bed and I lived in a normal way apart from being locked up around the clock."—Agence France-Presse and AP.

Drugged youths desecrate graves

Milan, Aug 25—Youths believed to be on drugs last night plundered an Italian cemetery, opened graves and stole jewelry and gold teeth.

The attack on the small cemetery of Bergamo in Lombardy left tombs open and bodies hanging from trees. Police said the graveyard was a meeting place for young drug takers who regularly organized "strange" festivals there.—Agence France-Presse.

WU calls poll strategy

Senior TGWU officials, including Mr. Massey Evans, the driving force behind the union's strategy and its representative on the multi-union committee, envisage no conflict with election law. Officials will undertake election tasks in their own time.

The union's executive will not decide how much of its political fund, at present about £490,000, will be spent on Labour's election campaign in 1974, in two elections, the union gave more than £120,000 to the party.

The Labour Party, which hopes to raise about £1m through donations, has about £330,000 in its election fund. The unions, while certain to make substantial direct donations, may consider also spending on general pro-Labour advertising and publicity.

Senior TGWU officials last night were at pains to dismiss any suggestion that the chosen date of the briefing session reflected inside knowledge of polling day.

Second botulism death recorded as misadventure

A verdict of misadventure was recorded yesterday at the inquest at Birmingham into the death of Elizabeth Farmer, aged 66, of Sharn End, Birmingham, after contracting botulism from contaminated salmon.

She died in the United States, aged 64, her husband, died from the disease last week, and Dr. Richard Whittington, the city coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death earlier this week. The coroner said that there was no evidence of criminal neglect.

Mr. Alan Gile, the son-in-law of the dead couple, told the coroner yesterday that the medical staff at East Birmingham hospital had fought with "tremendous dedication" to try to save them.

The condition of Mr. Leonard Farmer, aged 79, and his wife, Clara, aged 72, both also suffering from botulism, remained serious yesterday.

P forecasts impotent Scots Assembly

Barbidge plans.
Mr. Dalyell speaking, at a Labour Party meeting in Linwood, Strathclyde, said that at present both the end Mr. Norman Buchan, whose resignation was in touch with ministers of the Government. But with a Scottish Assembly, that access would not be available to assemblies or the prime minister of Scotland.

"We have a situation in which, if an Assembly is set up at all, and Scottish ministers are appointed and a Scottish government is formed, there is bound to be an outcry for industrial and financial power from London," he said.

"This clamour would be the beginning of a motorway to a separate Scottish state. If this is what the people of Scotland really want, so be it."

But they should not be blindfolded as to what was bound to occur if an Assembly came into existence.

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New Zealand: Bracewell is stumped by Taylor off the bowling of Embury.

ley, Gower restore patience

oodcock
responsible
glad with eight first
sts in hand, are 164
New Zealand.

to be patient while
second day's play in
first match between
New Zealand, sponsored
Corhill Insurance—
hour, that is, when
Gower made 75 and
117. 324 runs were
84 overs bowled. New
finished off in their
for 339. England re-
175 for two, and
all on the way to his
80.

most of it, rather
under. Botham had
in, with three more
Boycott promised
and then got out:
an early wicket, but
New Zealand missed
which they could fill
hey are to win the
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resilience, a fine
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his scores include
49 and now 13 not

Zealand's last five
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it six in the innings
by working Anderson.
Radley up with a short
knockers, he has out
e, he had him retreat
next one and caught
Botham had Howard
he wicket. Radley
in his high-spirited
was also warned
ng bouncers at Botham,
with which Radley
sarily and umpire Bird
insulation, the crowd,
to 20,000 in the after-
me rests. It trans-

plred that Bracewell was, in fact,
telling that the ball was not 250,
land's policy to bow out the ball
at New Zealand's tailenders, and
assuring him that it would not
happen again.

From the time of Howarth's
dismissal, New Zealand's batting
was tottering. In another 75
minutes they added only 18 runs.
Collinge, Book, and Bracewell
pushing forward as though they
were already in dire danger of
defeat, and to Gower, who
nounced, firmly, to rhyme with
"black". Bracewell was last out,
stumped off Embury, not dancing
down the wicket, but overbalanc-
ing in defence. Collinge had been
very well caught in the gully by
Embury.

New Zealand's total of 339 is
the highest made against England
this summer in 10 completed
innings. Botham, believe it or not,
has now taken five or more
wickets in a Test innings seven
times, and he is playing in only
his eleventh Test match. In the
past six and a half months he has
taken 49 wickets.

With two for 39 in 26.1 overs,
Embury made a useful start for
England. I would like to see him
using the crease rather more, to
vary his angle of flight, but he is
certainly accurate. So, of course,
Heardick—yes, in 15 Test
matches Heardick has not done
once what Botham has now done
seven times.

Gower fended off the first ball
of England's innings only just out
of Book's reach at square short
leg. Playing the same shot to the
second ball he was comfortably
caught in the same place. For a
while, now, Radley had a torrid
time of it. Radley, a yard or more
faster than Willis had been,
brought back the ball, and the
fighting qualities out of
Radley.

With Collinge needing careful
watching, the worst aspect of New
Zealand's batting was their over-
rate. Collinge's grotesque run, all
of 35 yards' long, restricted them
to 13 overs in the first
hour. There was also a missed catch,
which must have depressed the
New Zealanders. Radley, when he
was 14, should have been caught
off Hadley. At Trent Bridge, New

Kent and Essex find task is beyond them

By Alan Gibson

FOLKESTONE: Kent (7 pts) drew with Essex (5).

Kent now lead the championship by 43 points, two more than they began the match with. This is not an entirely conclusive position. Kent have two more matches to play, and Essex three. If Essex bowl to maximum points from their remaining games, Kent would still, to be sure, need 18, and it is the kind of summer, even on such a sunny day as it was at Folkestone yesterday, when it is always possible it might rain.

Kent have 277 points from 20 matches and Essex 234 from 19. If Essex falter then the fast-improving Middlesex may pip them to the title.

At the beginning of the day, Essex in their second innings, were 57 runs ahead with eight wickets in hand. McEwan was already out, but Fletcher and Denniss still had to be dismissed, to save nothing of a transformation. There was still a chance that somebody might only a transformation. It was just the occasion to appeal to him. However he was caught, and to Gower, who swish than a prod, quite soon, and Fletcher was caught at slip. Then Denniss was caught having bowled Underwood.

Denniss had batted better than anybody and looked as if he might be on the way to a high score (the more this Denniss makes, the better he bats, which is more than can be said of many of your greater batting names). After these two had fallen, Essex were in some spin into the Essex innings. Essex were all out for 228, which meant that Kent had to score 185 runs in 145 minutes.

The damage had been done by Underwood on the not quite blameless play of Gower, who was always a proposition on any kind of pitch. He is bowling very well at present. He took six wickets for 75, making his hundred wickets for the season. This rare feat nowadays. Indeed it is the first time he has done it, with all of

Forest must not lose their way back through London's Bush

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Nottingham Forest had little cause for disappointment on their way to the championship title last season; but something that frustrated them more than anything else was their inability to display their best form at London league grounds. Their only victory in the capital was against Queens' Park Rangers at Loftus Road. Shepherds Bush, although they beat all of the London sides on their own ground.

Having begun their defence this season with two somewhat lacklustre away games, the Nottingham Forest, today they visit the city to meet Queens' Park Rangers. The incentive to impress in west London could be the spur they need to ensure that they do not allow Liverpool and the rest to gain an insurmountable psychological advantage.

By selling their sturdy centre forward, Withe, to Newcastle United, Forest voluntarily fragmented their championship-winning forward line. Though not the most elegant of players, Withe was awkward to mark and was, with O'Neill, joint leading league goal-scorer for the club.

The danger for Forest is that whereas in the summer after their promotion the manager, Brian Clough, could have a busy market without too much un-

wanted attention, the situation is now much different. Every move is watched and within a few hours of Withe's departure, Clough was denying that he could be talked from Brampton and Ward, of Brighton, and Gray, of Aston Villa, were other subjects of speculative headlines. Clough is under rigid surveillance but may still pull off a surprise. In the meantime, Clough continues at centre forward.

Liverpool wisely took the precaution of requesting that should they be tempted back, they would have first option, but for the moment they are clearly satisfied with the team who won the European Cup less Smith and plus the return of the injured players. Alan Kennedy, their first buy and a victim of the Liverpool Town and Queens' Park Rangers, indicated not the least complacency. They are Rangers 2-1 at Anfield last Saturday, so Forest have an early opportunity to draw a form comparison.

Liverpool now take on Manchester City at Anfield. There is again no lack of ambition or financial backing, but where crucial results have, in recent seasons, taken a toll in aspirations. One is tempted to see this powerful northern meeting as a likely draw, but with City already depleted by injuries, Liverpool can win to be among the first leaders of the new term. City's injured players, Barnes, Davies and Kidd, all of whom have tests this morning. Ron Fothergill, bought from Luton by way of the United States, could join his brother.

Among the other unbeaten clubs apart from Liverpool are Manchester United, whose confidence should be boosted by a win at Ipswich, where the joyous arrival

Worcestershire's hopes fade

Worcestershire (5) by 37

A splendid second century by the batsman Gordon Hampshire fell short of 302 and were Worcestershire yesterday. Worcestershire's fourth win, which they achieved by a margin of 37 runs, was a success before he had taken 153 boundaries in his 153 wickets.

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Second XI competition

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Cosmos out on their own in US but trailing Europe

From Michael Leppard
New York, Aug 25

The rival coses are Eddie Firmani and John W. Smith. The key players include Rodney Marsh and Dennis Tarrant. It is because the game here is still something of a transplant, and good American players remain scarce.

New York Cosmos, under Mr. Firmani, are warm favourites to beat Mr. Jago's Tampa Bay Rowdies in Sunday's match at Meadowlands Stadium in New Jersey, a short drive from New York. If they do win, Cosmos will be the first team to take the title in two successive years in the League's 11-year history.

Other clubs, though, still have difficulty in finding an audience. For their last home game, this season, Los Angeles Aztecs drew barely 3,000 to their stadium, which can seat 100,000. They rallied around it in passionately.

Cosmos enjoyed a slightly successful summer, winning 24 of their 30 league matches. With players like Tarrant, Franz Beckenbauer, Carlos Alberto, Werner Roth, Vladimir Bogachev, and Giorgio Chinaglia, they overwhelmed some of their opponents so completely that many games became tediously one-sided.

All the same, because of the weird procedure governing professional soccer in the United States, the first leg of their quarter-final they lost 2-1 to Minnesota Kicks. Had the game been played by the conventional European rules, they would have had to win the home

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Saturday Review

Thank heaven for Arthur Freed

By Alan Jay Lerner



The idea for a musical based on Colette's "Gigi" came from the legendary MGM producer Arthur Freed, who approached Alan Jay Lerner just as "My Fair Lady" was trying-out in Philadelphia. With screen play by Lerner and music by his long-time partner Frederick (Fritz) Loewe, it was directed in Paris and Hollywood by Vincente Minnelli, with a cast that included Leslie Caron, Maurice Chevalier, Hermione Gingold and Louis Jourdan.



Above, from left to right: Maurice Chevalier, Arthur Freed, Alan Jay Lerner, Louis Jourdan. Below left: Hermione Gingold and Maurice Chevalier. Left: Leslie Caron.

Price Waterhouse, are opened on Academy Award Night, there is no one connected with the motion picture industry who knows the names contained therein.

It is bromidically simple to be cynical about all the shenanigans leading up to the awards—if one, not among those competing. But for those who have been nominated, cynicism is only a form of self-protection that wears thinner and thinner as the Big Night approaches, and disappears completely when the hour arrives and one enters the arena. The nominations for the Best Picture of 1958 that were announced in the closing days of winter 1959 were *On A Hot Tin Roof*, *Auntie Mame*, *The Defiant Ones*, *Separate Tables*, and *Gigi*. Besides the nomination for Best Picture, *Gigi* also was nominated in eight other categories: for Direction, Costume Design, Set Design, Editing, Scoring, Best Song, Best Screenplay, and Best Sound. Oddly enough, not one actor was nominated.

On the night of April 6th, the Academy Awards took place at the RKO Pantages Theatre. During the day all the nominees were assembled at the theatre and given minute instructions about how to reach the stage, where the microphone would be placed and on which side of the stage to exit. We then all remained in our respective dwellings to slip into the black tuxedos and shimmering gowns. Fritz and I were staying at the Beverly Hills Hotel and there is no sense in pretending that I was not excited. I was, Fritz, however, because of his recent coronary was determined to stay calm and somehow he managed to do so, assisted either by something given him by his doctor or something given him by the bartender.

We returned to the theatre at the appointed hour. The streets were lined with fans, the Klieg lights were shining from across the street and for all the world it could have been one of those famous Hollywood openings about which one used to read in the Twenties and Thirties. The ceremony was being televised by NBC and inside the theatre its sound was being picked up by a microphone. We made our way to our seats, which happened to be in the second row. To my great delight, André was sitting on the other side of me. Finally the lights dimmed, the overture began and I started preparing myself to be a good loser. Fritz had decided to be a very old and wise man that night and said very little, but at the last moment he, André and I quietly wished each other good luck.

After the usual fanfare, the speeches of welcome by the Master of Ceremonies and the President of the Academy, and the expected monologue by a comedian, the evening settled down to business. One by one the envelopes were opened, and in the categories for which *Gigi* had been nominated, one by one the winner was *Gigi*. After the first three, one can feel a sweep in the making and, despite all my efforts to remain detached and pessimistic, I could feel my metabolism begin to change, my hands grow colder and the rest of my body warmer.

It has always been the custom for every winner to thank everyone from the head of the studio to his Uncle Julius in Pittsburgh. I made up my mind that if I were included in the landslide the best way I could thank the Academy was to spare them that endless list, say my thank you in one sentence and get off. When my name came up for the Best Screenplay (based on material from another medium, as opposed to Best Original Screenplay), I did just that. A few moments later when *Gigi* was announced for the Best Song, back I went and simply added an "again" to whatever I had said before. I could have taken more time, however, because Fritz, still playing old and wise, came up the steps very slowly, and when he reached the top of the stairs, he was crowned him with the Oscar. Said Fritz, after a long historic pause: "I want to thank you all from the bottom of my somewhat damaged heart."

We had been told to exit stage right, meaning audience left, and I had done so a few minutes earlier. I was so rattled by his acceptance speech, however, that I began to exit in the wrong direction and had to be pulled back and re-aimed. Fortunately, the prickly left my skin when Vincente won for Best Direction and my teeth stopped aching when I heard the name *Gigi* announced for the Best Picture. As if nine Academy Awards were not enough, Maurice Chevalier was given a Special Award for all the joy he had brought to the screen during his lifetime. *Gigi* won ten Oscars, the largest number ever received by any film in the 31 years of Academy Award history.

It was also the first time in the 31 years of Academy Award history that the singer (Tony Martin) chosen to sing the winning song forgot the lyrics. To the vast viewing audience, the second half of the best lyric of the year went: "Gigi, la-la-la-do-do-do, la-la-la-do-do-do, la-la-la, Oh Gigi, la-la-la." It was very avant-garde.

© 1978 Alan Jay Lerner. This extract is taken from *The Street Where I Live* by Alan Jay Lerner, to be published by Hodder & Stoughton on September 11 at 26.55.

daily finished in and the next two spent orchestrating, editing, titles, and all the that goes into the film. By the time it was ready for

preview of any film is called a preview. I do not know if preview custom in recent years, time a theatre was some small town, able distance of referring a theatre to a film not too far from the picture, being out obviously, an arrives expecting "Gigi" knocking miniature buildings ideal audience to about the education, courtesan at century.

we took place in a before a suburban audience. The the departments in the film were Vincente Minnelli (directing *The Apartment*) and the id gone home. The 20 minutes' too long was too slow, "Gigi" and the "Gigi" must have five minutes (in hat can seem like a very far cry had hoped for, far is both to be as the custom, the asked to fill out lobby at the end which contained logically disguised as: What did you film? How did you like it? "Gigi" was a good, which con- and me, but did our opinion. We as Arthur was as we were. The room scene was like the ride home and, and as I sat of the car I sud- ed for the first time. indications of the motion-picture

your days of Holly- were under long- If a picture were needed work easily reassemble changes could be with *Gigi* (and all ice) the cast was a precise period of that period of time departed to the of the world to us. In other words, film was shown only be made any—by the editor department, the present, and all the ved in the technical But no changes to substance were.

I following out it whenever there, did very little: t night, got a good ep, "arose" early in. "ordered" breakfast us of coffee, opened "Gigi" and "Gigi" had a "Gigi" on our lungs roblem. There was the pitter-patter of "Gigi" up and down to go. But we felt scenes not only ting, but re-writing, no doubt that "I to Well" did not well and had to be ere was no doubt in that time for the ar: far too lush and en and did not have brilliant tone of a orchestra—something did more "like" the motion pictures. Exaggerations could be 1. But what about the here were the actors? y come back? Could? How much would

MGM we want. We chur trying to keep s up, but obviously as we were. There disagreement between ad to be done. Arthur i "touted up" the bill reports came to, which was 10 per cent idget. In no way did e studio would see more "Gigi. But the appointment for to meet" with Benny he ran the studio) at

I went out for a de- on some plan "Gigi" was financial the film: we had both salary. But we re- mitted that the pic- released, the we finally decided on

the way he did not say yes meant no. It was time for the prearranged strategy. Fritz and I spoke up—not in unison, of course, but in alternate sentences. We said: "Benny, we would like to buy 10 per cent of *Gigi* for \$300,000." Arthur was astounded. So was Benny. He thought for a long moment and finally made a decision. His decision was to call Mr. Joe Vogel in New York, the head of the company, and let him make the decision. Mr. Vogel said he would come to the coast to discuss the matter, but first he wished to see a preview himself.

While awaiting his arrival, 15 minutes or so were cut and we had another preview with Mr. Vogel present. The picture was obviously better, but to Fritz and me still not good. But Mr. Vogel liked it, and everyone else was pleased with the improvements. Fritz and I were fearful that our little group was about to fall into one of those traps we knew as well from the theatre. When something is bid and gets better, one begins to think it is now good, when all it is less bad.

The next day we met with Mr. Vogel and told him of our continuing concern and repeated our offer. He told us that it was against studio policy to allow outside financial participation and that, furthermore, he did not think any reshooting was necessary. The picture was good and it was to be released as it was. Fritz and I disagreed and asked if we could continue the discussion after lunch. Out on to the MGM lot we went again. What to do?

Finally, I asked Fritz if he were willing to gamble on a grand gesture. The key word here was gamble, something Fritz could never resist.

CUT TO MR. VOGEL'S OFFICE AFTER LUNCH

Cast: Joe Vogel, Benny Thau, Arthur, Fritz and AJL.

"Joe," I said, "Fritz and I would like to buy the print of *Gigi* for three million dollars." "I beg your pardon?" said Vogel. Fritz repeated it. "We would like to buy this, what do you call it?" "Print," I said. "Yes," said Fritz. "This print for three million dollars." Vogel, Thau and Arthur turned to stare. During this petrified silence I think it only fair to mention that Fritz and I did not have three million dollars, did not know where we would get three million dollars, and if Joe Vogel agreed, had no idea what in God's name we were going to do. When Vogel at last spoke up, he asked if he, Mr. Thau and Arthur could be excused for a few moments to confer. Fritz and I graciously agreed and exited.

FIVE MINUTES LATER SOME CAST

Joe Vogel spoke immediately. I do not remember his actual words, but I do remember the essence of what he said and it was this: he was deeply impressed by our sincerity and faith in the film. He was also

deeply impressed with the success of *My Fair Lady*. And if we both felt as strongly as we did, the studio had no alternative but to put up the necessary \$300,000.

Maurice was in Paris. Hermione was in New York. Leslie was in London. And Louis, Arthur, Fritz and I were in California. Maurice and Hermione returned and "I Remember It Well" was reshoot by Chuck Walters against a rather badly painted sunset drop, which did not matter at all and which proved, again that the close-up, not scenery, is motion pictures' greatest individual contribution to the dramatic arts.

Two key scenes in *Gigi's* house, which involved Hermione, Louis and Leslie were rewritten, reshaped and reshot. But when Leslie arrived from London, Chuck Walters reshoot them.

Fritz went over all the orchestrations with André Previn from the lion's roar at the very beginning to the final frame before "The Rink." André was in total agreement with Fritz's concept of a small orchestra, and the entire film was re-orchestrated.

Arthur Freed. It was here that he was at his most creative and most positive.

Several weeks later the picture was ready to be previewed again. It was a memorable evening. By the grace of God, all the steps we had taken had been in the right direction. The reaction of the audience dramatically changed from appreciation to affection. The studio still passed out those demented cards in the lobby, but it was not necessary to read them. We had all been a part of their spontaneous involvement. We had seen them with tears in their eyes at the moment there should have been tears in their eyes. And we had heard their applause at the end.

Being relative neophytes, Fritz and I had no idea what the universal reaction would be. All we could say to each other was that it was as long last *Gigi*.

Gigi opened in New York in the spring of 1958. It had been decided to treat it more as a theatrical event than a motion picture. Consequently it did not open in a motion picture theatre but a theatre theatre, the RKO Royale, with reserved seats only.

I was not present: I was in London preparing for the opening of *My Fair Lady* at Drury Lane. The first review I saw was published two days before the film opened. It was in *Time Magazine* and it was dreadful. Fritz was in New York in an oxygen tent following a massive coronary, and when I read it I wished I were there with him. Fortunately it

was the last bad review the film received. The New York press embraced it warmly and *Gigi* began its long and happy life.

From the late winter to the early spring of every year, it is award time in the motion picture industry. Among the most prominent are the Screenwriters' Guild, which gives an award for the best dramatic screenplay, the best comedy and the best musical screenplay; the Directors' Guild, which awards for the best direction; the Foreign Press Association, which gives a series of awards (known as the Golden Globe because it is the shape of the award) for excellence in almost every branch of motion picture production; and in New York, the New York Film Critics vote on the best film, the best acting and the best direction.

Finally, with the first blush of spring, the voice of the Oscar is heard in the land. Officially its donor is the Motion Picture Academy, and it is the most widely known of any accolade bestowed in any country upon any branch of the arts. Besides the artistic recognition, the fame of the Academy Award is such that it has been estimated it adds a minimum of \$1,000,000 to the gross revenue of the winning film.

The Oscar season begins about six to eight weeks before the fateful night with the announcement of the nominations. The announcement is immediately followed by a series of advertisements that appear in the two Hollywood trade papers,

The Daily Variety and *The Hollywood Reporter*, in which the studios of each nominee nominees congratulate him or her. This is followed by another series of advertisements in which the producers of the various films congratulate the actors, directors, creators and technicians who have been nominated. Following that comes another set of advertisements in which the nominated actors, directors, creators and technicians thank the studios for the opportunities they have been given. In the final series, the various recording companies who have released the soundtrack albums and the music publishers congratulate the composers who have been nominated—and the composers and lyric writers then thank the studios and the producers. Simultaneously with the well-advertised congratulations and gratitude, the Directors' Guild, which has its own theatre, shows on successive nights every film that has figured in any of the various nominations. Press agents work overtime, scheduling interviews with the newspapers for their nominated clients and arranging personal appearances on radio and television. Behind the scenes, friends of nominees call other friends to solicit their votes, and each studio which had any one nominated has it known that it expects every man on the lot to do his duty.

Despite all this backstoring, the ballot is a secret one and no one knows who votes for whom, much less who is the winner. When the envelopes, sealed by the accounting firm of

ENTERTAINMENTS

ALSO ON PAGE 10

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 "CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO SEE IT AGAIN". D. M. ALDWINCH 836 6304. Home 836 5533.

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
 Today 2.00 & 7.30, Mon. 8.30, Tues. 8.30, Wed. 8.30, Thurs. 8.30, Fri. 8.30, Sat. 8.30, Sun. 8.30. Further details on the programme will be available from 10.00 on day of performance.

APOLLO 01-437 0208, Eves. 8.15 & 9.00. Mat. 2.30 & 4.15. Nats. 4.15 & 5.00. Further details on the programme will be available from 10.00 on day of performance.

SHUT YOUR EYES AND THINK OF ISLAND
 "WICKEDLY FUNNY". The Times.

ASTORIA THEATRE 01-856 1171
 Nightly at 8.00. Mat. 2.30. Nats. 4.15.

PATRICK CARRILL & TONY ANHOLT
 "SLEUTH". The World's Funniest Theater.

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THEATRES

LYRIC THEATRE 01-437 3686, Eves. 8.15, Sun. 7.30. Mat. 2.30. Nats. 4.15.

PLOWRIGHT FINLAY
 "FRANCO ZEFFIRELLI". The Times.

WELSH NATIONAL THEATRE CO
 "Dylan Thomas". The Times.

UNDER MILK WOOD
 "A delirious, Gdn. Malcolm Taylor's beautiful and original production". Daily Tel.

EVERY GOOD BOY DESERVES FAVOUR
 "A delirious, Gdn. Malcolm Taylor's beautiful and original production". Daily Tel.

NATIONAL THEATRE 01-239 3191
 Tuesday 8.15, Wednesday 8.15, Thursday 8.15, Friday 8.15, Saturday 8.15, Sunday 8.15. Further details on the programme will be available from 10.00 on day of performance.

OLIVER!
 "CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO SEE IT AGAIN". D. M. ALDWINCH 836 6304. Home 836 5533.

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Weekend broadcasting

TV CHOICE

Saturday
 Only one cheer from me for the return of Starsky and Hutch (9.00 pm BBC 1); I always think that gloss and violence make such poor bedfellows. Two cheers for the return of The Masters (6.15 ITV), the cleverly executed quiz game for the 007s of this world. Three cheers for the unimpaired re-run of King Kong (10.00 pm BBC 1)—and no apologies to my colleague David Robinson for trespassing on his preserves. The older this film gets, the better it gets, and old age has compensations of a different kind for the OAPs of Leeds who appear on Jimmy Savile's programme (6.45 pm BBC 2) and talk about the happier side of achieving physical maturity. Surely the weirdest pop programme ever, Revolver (11.30 pm) selected ITV regions) takes the vilification of Peter Cook a step further. Devotees will insist that the show's lack of charm is what they like, not dislike, about it.

Sunday
 The Editors (11.05 pm BBC 1) ends its run as trenchantly as it began it. No studio chat tonight, though. Instead, interviewer Elynn Parry Jones elicits some stirring comments from, and about, Percy Quoba, the black, pacifist, editor whose newspaper The World was shut down by the South African government. 8.05 pm BBC 2: Bernstein conducting, Menuhin on viola, Rostropovich on cello, Prokofiev on piano—a remarkable conjunction of talent in Beethoven's Triple Concerto. It's a tribute to Bernstein on his 60th birthday, hence the inclusion in the programme of that dreadful birthday song we love and hate. 12.30 pm ITV: I ally myself with those viewers who complain about the absurd time slot into which the Stalin series has been slotted: the hour of roast beef and Yorkshire is the worst possible time of day also to appreciate these gripping and important history lessons. Shame on you, ITV.

Peter Davalle

FILMS

The BBC is showing three of Hollywood's all-time box-office winners. The 45-year-old one is still the best: Cooper and Schenck's 1935 King Kong (tonight, BBC2, 10.00) remains the archetypal monster movie and the greatest interpretation of The Beauty and the Beast myth. George Roy Hill's Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (tomorrow, BBC1, 8.05), made in 1969, has grace, charm and humour. George Seaton's Airport (Monday, BBC1, 8.00) had little of these qualities, but is entertaining old hokum and a prototype of the disaster movie.

The Bridges at Toko-Ri (today, BBC1, 6.30) is a big 1954 Mark Robson Korean war adventure, with William Holden perishing stoically as a key bombing mission. Doctor in Clover (today, BBC2, 2.50), a latter-day example of its ilk, is the sort of thing we laughed at a decade ago. Tomorrow, Showboat BBC1, 1.55, the 1955 version with Kathryn Grayson, Howard Keel and Ava Gardner, lacks the charm of the original; but the music and the dancing of Marge and Gower Champion are well done.

Bob Refaelson and his star Jack Nicholson failed to come up with another Easy Pieces in King of Marvin Gardens (tomorrow, BBC2, 11.05), but it is still a wonderful and attractive. For Bank Holiday Monday there is a Danny Keefe double bill (BBC1, 1.00 and 2.50). A Song Is Born (1948) is only worth while for the music (Louis Armstrong, Tommy Dorsey, Lionel Hampton, et al); but Knock on Wood in which he is a ventriloquist caught up in international intrigue, was a superior vehicle.

The Gentle Sex (Thursday, BBC2, 9.00) is a classic piece of wartime as-yet-story: Leslie Howard and Maurice Elvey's 1943 story of a group of ATS recruits including Joan Greenwood and Lilli Palmer. On Friday, Barefoot in the Park (BBC1, 11.31) is Gend Saks's adaptation of the Neil Simon play—practically flawless, but redeemed by the endearing playing of Jane Fonda, Robert Redford, Mildred Natwick and Charles Boyer.

David Robinson

SATURDAY

BBC 1
 7.15 am, Open University: People and Organizations; 7.40, Geography of the Americas; 8.15-8.30, Maths; 9.00, Ragtime; 9.35, Scooby Doo; 9.35, Why Don't You? 10.00, Rockface; 10.25, Charlie Chaplin in The Circus; 10.55, Laurel and Hardy in Chickens Come Home; 11.25, Cricket: Third Test; 12.30 pm, Grandstand; 12.35, Football Focus; 1.00, 2.25, 2.55, Cricket; 1.30, Rugby; 2.00, 2.10, 2.40, Racing from Goodwood; 1.55, 2.55, Swimming World Championships; 2.55, 3.15, Show jumping; 3.40, 4.00, 4.15, News; 4.40, Final Score; 5.15, Tom and Jerry; 5.25, News; 5.40, Wonder Woman; 6.30, Film: The Bridges at Toko-Ri, with William Holden, Grace Kelly, Fredric March, Mickey Rooney; 7.30, Seaside Special from Jersey; 9.00, Starsky and Hutch (new series); 9.50, News; 10.00, Match of the day; 11.00, The UK Show; 11.30, Leaving Lily, ghost story, with Nick Wilby, Diane Fletcher; 12.15 am, Weather; 12.30 am, Black and white.

Tyne Tees
 8.00 am, Local; 8.30, The Paper Lead; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00, Local; 7.30, Local; 8.00, Local; 8.30, Local; 9.00, Local; 9.30, Local; 10.00, Local; 10.30, Local; 11.00, Local; 11.30, Local; 12.00, Local; 12.30, Local; 1.00, Local; 1.30, Local; 2.00, Local; 2.30, Local; 3.00, Local; 3.30, Local; 4.00, Local; 4.30, Local; 5.00, Local; 5.30, Local; 6.00, Local; 6.30, Local; 7.00

after 6.

I did not realize how vast the bottle-collecting craze had grown until I visited the Sussex Bottle Centre, 31 Cliffe High Street, Lewes, Sussex, last week. It was not only the range of antique glass and stoneware bottles that surprised me (and the high prices—including £15 for a Victorian stone-ginger-beer bottle decorated with a transfer of a penny-farthing bicycle) but the wealth of literature on the subject and available.

This ranged from a good general beginner's guide, *Bottle Collecting Comprehensive Price Guide*, compiled by Roger Green, editor of *Antique Bottle Collecting* magazine (the book is published by Old Bottles and Treasure Hunting... Chapel House Farm, Albrighton, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, at £2.50) to more esoteric publications such as Alan McEwen's delightful booklet on *Collecting "Quack Cures"* (95p, distributed by Southern Collectors' Publications, 7 Maple Road, Bizarre, Southampton), or Roy Morgan's scholarly and entertaining history of poison bottles, *The Bitter Blue Coffin* (£1.95, published by Kalamita Press, Torrington Road, Wellington, Northants.). You can buy books on "Olde Whisky Jugs", black and white pot lids, cream pots and mineral water bottles. There is even a *Sussex Ginger Beer Bottle Catalogue* compiled by Derek Askey (20p, available at the Lewes shop).

The great appeal of old bottle collecting is that, if you are not acting as you do not have to buy your collection from shops; you can dig it out of rubbish tips. The magazine *Antique Bottle Collecting* reported in January, 1977, that the hoards of 25 stoneware and "Haddon's" and other stoneware bottles' worth over £1,000 had been unearthed in an old Cambridgeshire building. They all bore the hitherto unknown impressed brand name "C. M. Hopkins, St. Ives" (Nothing to do with the poet!) in *Sussex Bottle Collectors' Guide* (Kensington Press, Brighton). Derek Askey told some of the other success stories of the bottle hunters, and described how the craze began after Ted Elstner, then living in Brentwood, Essex, founded the British Bottle Collectors' Club in 1972:

"By early 1973 the 'Bottle boom' was in full swing with all the atmosphere of the days of the 'Rugby Cup' when the bottle bonanzas from long forgotten rubbish tips were spreading like wildfire. Unfortunately, with all the digging activity, many of the tips of reasonable size were soon dug over in Sussex, and Sid Manning from Shoreham and other local diggers had already begun to make regular trips to dig in the sprawling dumping ground of the 1960s at Iver in the county of Rutland. Iver became the promised land for dozens of bottle hunters within a 50-mile radius, and it was not unusual to see a collection of both sexes and all ages, toiling industriously from dawn to dusk."

Mr Askey added that "Hundreds of tons of household rubbish... had been brought to this site by canal barge, and bottle diggers often treasured the broken grey ashes until they almost disappeared from sight; but in the warm spring days of 1973 you could expect to stagger back to the car or train with 50 assorted bottles and perhaps a couple of pounds' worth of your collection." A second tip was found at Iver in 1974, and a large site in Portsmouth in 1975; the Beigate caves are the latest hunting-ground. In May 1975 the Southern Bottle Festival was held in Brighton: nearly 500 people came to buy, sell or exchange bottles and potlids. In his *Bottle Collecting* published last year—the best beginners' guide—Roger Green estimated that there were more than 15,000 shovel-wielding bottle hunters in Victorian dump sites up and down the country "and new recruits 'take to the bottle' daily."

Many collectors begin with Ginger Beer bottles. The range of printed brand-names and designs is so great that, on the simplest level, this form of collecting has the appeal of postage-stamp collecting: "sets" can be made up and rarities sought. The best guide is *Ginger Beer Collecting* by Tony Adams, Andy Payne and Mick Davison (£1.25, published by Southern Collectors' Publications, 7 Maple Road, Bizarre, Southampton). The authors suggest that examples found on dumps and suffering from "concretion", a hard concrete or stonelike substance which adheres to or encases objects should be soaked in a 10 per cent solution of hydrochloric acid. (Great care must be taken.)

Ginger beer bottles may be dated by the ways in which they are closed. The authors suggest the following chronology: blob top cork stopper, 1900-12; internal screw thread, 1908-30; Gaithe Rose (a patent in which the plug was replaced by a single metal pin inserted into the cork), 1905-15; lightning stopper, 1910-25; crown lip (the crimped crown cap still familiar), 1925-35. (The dates represent the periods of most prolific use.) The prices given in this 1976 publication are already straggling the highest being £26 plus 10 per cent for a 16-Bombay brand Stalybridge two-tone, with a cobalt blue top.

I wonder if any of the collectors have a Corfu example in their collection. Like cricket, ginger beer was one of the British legacies to Corfu. It is still served in the cafes along the Spinalonga peninsula and the Corfians call it *tim-tim beer*, which is the

seest they can get to "gi beer".

Gladstone arrived in Corfu as High Commissioner E. ordinary in 1853. Brian I records in his biography Corfu that "his constituent measures were so radical he was besieged by G who regarded him as 'a fearful providence'." I add: "A story, with foundation, recalls that he failed in his mission to see the rest of his time on eating Turkish delight drinking ginger-beer at pavement cafes."

Mineral water bottles. I are well covered in the early, but necessarily a dull *Mineral Water Bottles An Illustrated Price Guide Internal Stopper Variation*. B. Wynn-Jones (£1.50, Southern Collectors' Publications 1978) and in the more entertaining *Mainly Codd's Water Bottles of the Great War*. *Pot Bottle* by Roy Morgan, first-class Wellington, or in old bottles of all in his survey of what might be called "pop art", Mr Morgan deals with the stoneware glass Hamiltons for W. Edwards, which included silver-plated stands to them upright—though the main virtue of the "hamlets" was that, because it generated a cork on its liquid and could be in contact with the air. Later on, flat-bottom "skittle" bottles were made

From the 1860s, "internal stoppers" became common many of them made by ingenious Londoners. El Codd, whose pots were very called "Codd's" wall by name, who preferred to drink with a kick in it. In novel *Thorefore*, Christopher Morley wrote about Geoff who would "rather lemonade with a marble in the meant one of those bottles which the impatience of glass kept a glass marble spered in the neck. The pin can, whose eyes also looked like marbles, drove the bottle and with juror's quickness received jeering foam in a tall glass. The only trouble with marble-stoppered bottles, so much prized by collectors, was that they broke to obtain the marbles, and sometimes led to bad accidents. In January, 1897, Connor patented a stopper aerated waters "made to shape" to prevent the wreckage of the stopper as "marble".

One of the most entertaining forms of bottle collecting is "Quack Cures" Bottles, the subject of Alan McEwen's excellent book already mentioned. The bottles include William Radam's Micro Killer, a glass bottle impregnated with the pictorial trademark of a man striking a skull with a club. Radam's mixture was 99.981 per cent water, with small quantities sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid and a colouring agent made from commercial wax was exposed in the United States in 1906 but continued to be sold in Oxford Street, London, until 1910. Many of the quack medicines originated in America, and some were given Indian names for additional mystique, such as "Cherokee Kidney and Liver Cure" issued by L. Brown London, "Dr Kilmer's Indian Cough Cure and Consumptive Oil" (Kilmer also made a famous "Swamp Root" kidney medicine) and "Wagner's Emulsion" with the eagle trademark of a North American Indian canoe. White make bad medicine. Poison bottles were made in the most outlandish shapes: the most threatened was the bottle which achieved a bottle instantly recognizable as a poison container, by look and by touch. In *The Bitter Blue Coffin* Roy Morgan records the history of poison bottle patents, the threatened bottle and crossbones symbol. The was legislation in Britain as early as 1819 concerning the sale of poisonous drugs at the proper labelling of containers. In 1829, the chemist John Savory and William Barker of New Bond Street, London were granted a patent for a bottle of six, eight, more sides, which might be used to hold the poison would feel odd: Morgan can it "the first purpose-built English poison bottle".

In 1871 G. F. Langford was given provisional patent protection for a bottle in the shape of a coffin. A special stand for poison bottles, of which removal of the containers broke an electrical circuit and set off a bell, was patented by J. S. Child in 1878. The Morgan bottle was "the Great War" could be blamed for the demise of the flamboyantly designed poison bottle... But, more likely, better lit homes, more literate more standardized bottle production and the increased use of the external screw cap played their part in its downfall. All the early bottles are now in demand, and Roy Morgan can be visited at the Old Bottle Emporium, Heriot Lane, Wellington, Northants, or written to at 63 Torrington Road, Wellington, for prices the coffin bottles at £100 and the "wasp-waist" £25. Evidently, one man's poison is another man's meat.

Bevis Hall

Why Alex Haley is so proud of his Roots...



Alex Haley: "I like to think I have helped blacks and whites to understand each other"

Los Angeles

Only one thing is better than hitting the jackpot, and that is hitting it twice. Thus Alex Haley, whose epic *Roots*, the publishing phenomenon of the generation, was made into the most-watched programme on American television, has been working deep into many nights to complete a sequel for his publishers; and this, in turn, is being rendered into a *Son of Roots* for television.

All this brings Mr Haley, at last, to the satisfying, if not the exhausting, of his obsession with his family history and the history of all the black people of America.

Roots took him 12 years to write and is reckoned to be an important influence in the raising of black consciousness and pride in recent years.

"Although I started out writing the story of my own family, from the time my

me to be a kind of leader. But I could never be that. I'm simply a writer who has told a story. And a lucky writer, too. *Roots* came out at just the right time. In the social climate of the United States, ten or 15 years ago, with all the demonstrations and turmoil, it would have been seen as an inflammatory book and have run into trouble."

In print and vision, *Roots* has made Mr Haley very rich. It has earned him well over £2m. The sequel, called *Search*, which takes up where *Roots* left off, and the television sequel, will earn millions of dollars. Some of the money, after taxes, lawyers and accountants have dipped their spoons, will go to a *Roots* foundation to aid black students and writers.

Money has not led Mr Haley to collect mansions. After seeing how shabby his condourer looked on television he bought himself some decent suits; and he indulged himself in "the slickest typewriter ever made". But he still drives the car he bought eight years ago, fitting it with a small vanity, a licence plate lettered KENTE, the name of *Roots*'s hero. At home he keeps a framed collage of a dime, a nickel, three cents and two sardine cans; in his lowish writing days these were the desperate remnants of his treasury and larder.

The hard days were in Greenwich Village, New York, where

he struck out as a writer after 20 years in the United States Coastguard. Gradually he made his name, and some money, primarily as a writer of long and serious interviews for *Playboy*. His *Autobiography of Malcolm X*, the outcome of one of these interviews, secured his reputation as a writer.

But he gave up a life of relative comfort to answer the *Roots* obsession. His researches into slavery, and the life of black people after slavery, took him to Africa and on interviewing journeys throughout the United States. During his dozen years of toil, there were times when he was desperate, depressed and short of money. Indeed, he had to borrow money and he failed to meet five publishers' deadlines.

But *Roots* made it. At last, to the press. Its success took him by surprise. His publishers, Doubleday, were amazed, too. They had an initial print run of 200,000, but had to switch to a high speed press printing 100,000 a day.

These days Mr Haley, who is 57, spends much of his time in a valley near Los Angeles where the sequel to *Roots*, unimaginatively entitled *Roots: The Next Generations*, is being filmed by the American Broadcasting Company at a cost of £10m. Fourteen hours are being filmed and, like the first black-

buster, will occupy prime time every evening for a week in the early part of next year. And, like the first *Roots*, it is being produced by David Wolper. A number of writers are turning Alex Haley's words in *Roots* and *Search* to tell the story of Kunte Kinte's descendants from the 1880s to the present time. Henry Fonda stars in the early parts of the production.

Most of the filming is being done in a replica of Alex Haley's home town of Henning, Tennessee, which has cost \$1 million dollars to build. The town is "aging" as filming goes on, its stables giving way to a garage, its muddy street being paved and lighted.

Mr Haley is quietly excited by it all. "I like to think that the things I have written help both blacks and whites to understand each other."

Trevor Fishlock



The Emperor's unroyal habits

The Emperor has dirty habits. Although he too, like the Empress spends much of his time, enthroned on tall trees or sailing round their tops, he does come down to earth too in search of refreshment.

It is a good year for Purple Emperor butterflies. Wildlife photographers are having a hey-day in a few accessible woodland rides that the butterflies frequent, while anxious wardens patrol in an effort to stop collectors from waving their menacing nets.

This biggest and most famous of British butterflies should be on the protected list to prevent the taking of far more than can be spared. If the small population is to survive. Fortunately at the moment, there is a handful of private woods to which the collectors have no entrance and which, in some cases, are even protected by fierce dogs. Otherwise there might be a risk that these interesting and beautiful insects might lose all chance to live and go on breeding.

We have been watching Purple Emperors flitting down to the ground at intervals to sup at the juices from fresh horse-pig, dog, fox and even rabbit

droppings. From other countries come records of the descent male butterflies imitating moisture from deer's mists as well as from decayed bodies of weasels, stoats, magpies and jays on keens gibbets. The Emperor's ing for such strong drink does not seem to be shared by Emperresses.

They, although they do occasionally visit the ground, make with the Emperor quick, strong flights to trees with injuries from which sap extrudes, but otherwise seem usually to live on honeydew on leaves, except through years when we have seen them voraciously down purposefully made puddles.

For butterfly-lovers, it is time to sit and watch, the pleasing reward is to see Purple Emperors surveying a then laying her eggs in a chosen nursery. Recently I have seen the highest Emperor of our lives soaring along the forest trees at the edge of a ride until she came to a willow. It may have been one where she was born. A low she sailed down, circled several times and finally, as if flying in at different levels, "striking the willow as the old naturalists used say."

Alison Ros

The do or die brigade

It is not apparent what quality attracts a fan club to the shrine of a dead author. It does not appear to be always the high quality of his or her writing. There are Shakespearean societies, but the ones that make the most noise are those intent on persuading the rest of the world that the Bard was really Bacon, or the Earl of Oxford, or another quite different man who happened also to be called Shakespeare. No doubt there are societies that worship Charlotte Brontë, and Trollope, and T. S. Eliot; and quite right too. But they do not seem to be as numerous or as passionate as the worshippers of Sherlock Holmes. Loving great literature is a private affair. The latest fan club to be formed around the works of a dead author is the Henty Society.

The Who Society? George Alfred Henty wrote nearly a hundred books of mainly adventure for boys before his death in the year after Victoria's. He was one of the first war correspondents, and then suddenly at the age of 40 turned into a prolific writer of ripping historical yarns. He wrote his war romances through the battlefields of the world from the Punic Wars to the Ashanti expedition, and all the other modern campaigns he had reported and occasionally taken a hand in when opportunity offered.

His plot was predictable. The young hero has clearly just stepped out of a nineteenth-century public school into high adventure, whether in ancient Egypt or on the Crusades or on the field of Waterloo. Whatever his alien name or supposed race, he is good looking, plucky, strong limbed and especially manly and exhibits "that nameless air of command which distinguishes most young men who have passed through the upper forms of a great public school."

After a series of thrilling adventures he wins through to command the regiment or become Hannibal's Lieutenant, as the case may be, and marries the fair maiden he rescued in an earlier chapter from the Redskins or the heathen Chinese. It is the ancient plot of St George Minor and the Dragon. Henty described his familiar hero of many names

but one face: "a typical public schoolboy, straight and clean limbed, free from all awkwardness, bright in expression, and possessed of a fair amount of cheek—in short, a good specimen of the class by which Britain has been built up, her colonies formed and her battlefields won."

Henty churned out 31 of these books a year, dictating 6,000 words a day to his secretary after office hours. His sales were prodigious, even by modern standards. Schools stocked their libraries and gave them as reward books. Times and tastes have changed. You can still find those plump volumes with an exciting picture and a liberal dollop of gilt on the cover in the upper shelves of libraries in old-fashioned boarding schools. In his prefaces Henty tended to address his readers embarrassingly as "My dear lads."

There are fewer of his dear lads around these days. But occasionally some faithful fans survive and flourish. The Henty Society formed last year has so far attracted about 100 members. Their common passion for the works of G. A. Henty is not entirely literary, though there may be some nostalgia for a simpler, manlier world, where people knew who were the heroes and who the maidens to be rescued from the mad villains. The books themselves as objects, with their pictorial bindings using up to six colours and their fine illustrations, were the first books mass-produced for the juvenile market.

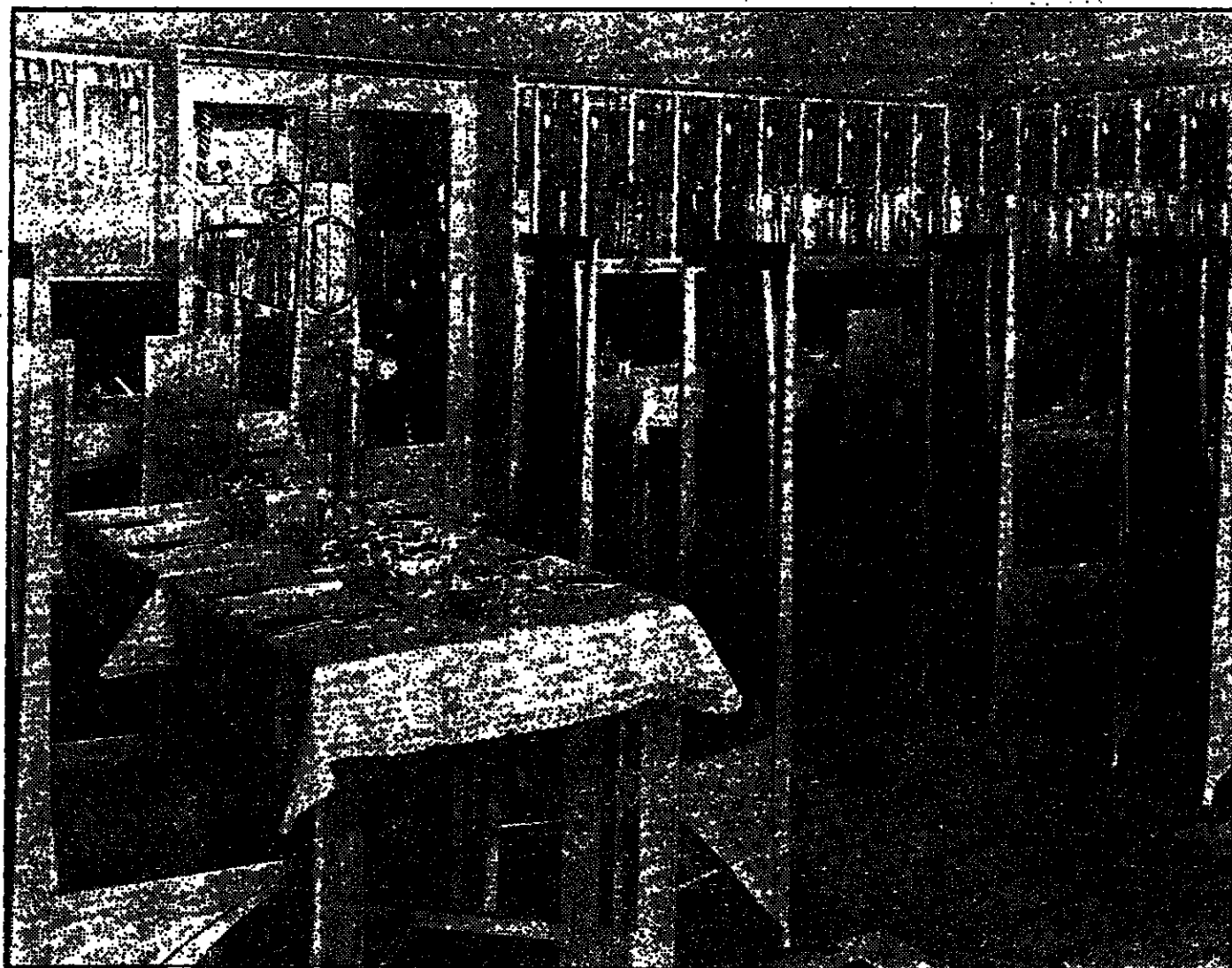
Their first editions make a splendid set to collect because they are so pretty and so numerous. People undoubtedly join the Henty Society partly to increase their collections. They disagree violently about the quality of Henty's writing, much of which seems unreadable to a modern eye. But most Hentyphiles protest defensively that the books of Henty's middle period are still readable good tales. Peter Newbolt, formerly the production manager of a famous printing house, edits a learned Henty bulletin that discusses such matters as Henty and the cuisines, Henty and the Irish, and other aspects of the great back's encyclopaedic knowledge.

One consequence of this recent activity, vexing but predictable for lovers of Henty, is that the price of his books in the second-hand bookshops has soared. But the mainly dear lads of Henty are the latest welcome but engagingly improbable recruits to that most harmless of enthusiasms, love of dead authors.

Philip Howard

The row brewing over a piece of Glasgow's history

Will tea be served again at the Willow rooms?



Charles Rennie Mackintosh's elegant Willow

tea rooms in their Edwardian splendour. Must this

tourist attraction be thrown away?

drawn. The exhibition now passes to the Edinburgh Festival, thence to London and the USA where a similar reception is expected.

Thus the building, furnishings and fittings are available. By great good fortune, so is a sympathetic tenant. The Fine Arts Society has indicated will-

ingness to take on the building and open part as a room once more. All the ingredients for an outstandingly successful conservation story are present. In London, such a tea room would be a success. In Glasgow, even more so. But it does not look as though Glasgow will get the chance.

First, the City has shown no interest in acquiring the premises. Thus the Fine Arts Society would have to rent from the developers—Arrowcroft Management of London. The full commercial rent Arrowcroft seeks is far beyond the means of the Fine Arts Society. Yet

such is the potential of this building, one would have thought that the Glasgow local authorities might have helped out—in the expectation that the very least of Mackintosh fans from abroad.

In an effort to protect Mackintosh remains from an unknown tenant, therefore, Glasgow drew

up 20 conditions for planning permission. These include the restoration of some features and the relocation of a first floor room in the third. The Glasgow Building Conservation Committee is unconvinced by these conditions. Only some of them are enforceable by law, and they are inadequate safeguards on others. For example, who is to detail and supervise the restoration or relocation of Mackintosh elements? The developer's architect (also in London) have not so far demonstrated that they are part in Rennie Mackintosh detail.

Some might think that a fine point. Not so. Only recently GLC refused to disburse promised historic building grant on the grounds that restoration had totally ruined the original character of the house. Historic building repair as sensitive as this is work for a specialist, not generalist architect. A further condition that the tea-room be wholly self contained turns out to be contrary to building regulation and impossible to enforce with out a waiver. Even that waiver, granted, the room would be disastrous, in that internal fittings such as the main staircase and doors would have to be fireproofed. The result would be the destruction of important features. Conservation conditions are ludicrous if officials of the planning department do not check that their proposals are acceptable to the Building Control Department.

The future of the Willow Tea Rooms is therefore a matter of notwithstanding the planning department's famous 20 conditions. The matter would have been better resolved by some courage and vision by Glasgow in the fresh purchase of the tea rooms and its subsequent lease to the Fine Arts Society. The cost would have been but a pittance compared to their annual disbursement for vandalism in their grim post war housing estates.

The City, unfortunately, has run out of vision. So, just as the Scottish Development Department has had to intervene in East Glasgow renewal, perhaps a comparable government agency should take over key parts of Glasgow's heritage to preserve them from further self-inflicted wounds.

Charles McKean

SPORTS DIARY

Lord's from Bradman to Botham

Seventy years ago tomorrow, Emily Bradman, the wife of a New South Wales farmer, gave birth to her fifth child. Named Donald George, he had become a legend by the time he was 25 and a Knight at the age of 40. All being well, he will be at Adelaide airport, still alert and quick on his feet, when the next England team lands there in two months time.

It was here at Lord's, where the present Test match between England and New Zealand is being played, that "the Don" played what he regards as his best innings. The match was the second Test of 1930. Bradman's 254, still the highest score in a Test match at Lord's. He was, in his own words, "naturally very anxious to do well" in his first Test at Lord's. "Practically every ball," he says "went where I intended." When eventually he was out, to a marvel, diving catch at short extra cover by Percy Chapman, it was

the first time he had raised the ball off the ground.

England made 425 and 375, Australia 729 for 6 declared and 72 for three. A four-day match, it ended in an Australian victory with all four of spare. To score a total of 1,601 runs might take two modern sides twice as long; lest that sounds carping I hasten to add that the teams of 1930 played a vastly different game from the one being seen at Lord's at this moment.

Of Bradman's cricketing genius there can be no possible doubt. In any age he must have excelled. In one day in a Test match at Headingley he scored 304 runs off his own bat. But when I asked him, in Australia in 1953, how many he might in his prime have made in a day then, against an England attack concerned at least as much with stopping him from scoring as with getting him out (which is where the emphasis was in 1930), he replied: "Perhaps 165. We played only five-hour days in Australia at that time, as distinct from six in England in 1930." But that is not the only change in the game. The attitude is now different.

Architecturally, too, the Lord's of today has undergone



The Chappell brothers, Ian (left) and Greg, bane of the bookmakers with a century double.

some substantial changes. In 1953 the Warner stand, was built; ten years later, to the horror of many, the old Tavern was pulled down and replaced by a new Tavern Stand. The pub was moved from one side of the Grace Gates to the other. For a long time this was hard to accept, for cricketers-lovers a century valve lot. Now, though, the Tavern boxes are in greater

demand than ever and the beer tastes just the same. There are 37 private boxes at Lord's, 17 in the Grand Stand and 20 in the Tavern stand. For the present Test match over 1,000 applications came from members wanting to rent them. In an Australian year there are even more. They are allocated by ballot, except for the three traditionally reserved for the

President and the Secretary of MCC and for the Test and County Cricket Board. The secretary's house being immediately behind the Grand Stand, he takes his guests home for lunch. In S. C. Griffith's time as secretary he once had four British Prime Ministers round his lunch-table. All the other boxes are catered for on the spot.

Business companies, which do increasingly more of their entertaining in boxes, be it at Lord's or on the racecourse or at the Albert Hall, pay £700 (exclusive of food and drink) for the privilege of using a Tavern box and £500 for one in the Grand Stand. For personal use the charges are £230 and £190 respectively.

What else has changed since Bradman, on playing his last innings at Lord's on his fortieth birthday, hung his batting gloves round his bat handle as he walked off (having been caught for 150 by Martin Donnelly off Freddie Brown) and waved them to the crowd? Where then the spectators crowd stood there is now a museum, opened in 1953 as a war memorial and containing the world's finest collection of

cricketiana. On the Saturday of the Lord's Test match in 1968, after a freak hailstorm had flooded the ground, 1,864 people paid to visit it, plus several hundred members. The most valuable of its many possessions is a painting by Saxel described by Mr Stephen Green, the curator, as "a party of Dutchmen playing an English game in Italy by a Swiss artist of the French school."

At the opposite end of the ground there is now a splendid indoor cricket school and, more controversially, a bookmakers' tent. On a busy Test match day Ladbrokes take £10,000 in bets, 30 per cent of it on cricket, 70 per cent on racing. Betting tax there being an "on the course" five pence in the pound, rather than the 5p of the High Street, it is used by a number of big racing punters as well as those interested in a flutter on New Zealand at 20-1 (their price on Thursday morning) or on the number of wickets to fall in a period of play or simply, as an unknown eccentric did recently, to back himself at a million to one to become the next Pope. Ladbrokes' biggest cricket payout was at the Oval Test in 1972, when it was possible to back individual batsmen to score

hundreds. On that occasion the Chappell brothers of Australia, Ian and Greg, did so, each at 10 to one. With many a small double staked on them they won their backers £8,000.

The cricket school, opened last November, is fulfilling a long-standing need and providing a great success. For six weeks in the spring all seven nets were fully booked from 10 in the morning until 10 o'clock at night, Sunday to Friday inclusive. Don Wilson, of Yorkshire and England, is chief of the coaching staff.

Among those who have been helping him is Len Muncey, now in his fifth and last year at Lord's, first as a boy on the ground staff, then as a Middlesex player and finally as the MCC head coach. Though still putting them on the spot, he thinks the time has come for a break. The best of Muncey's recent boys? Ian Botham, who finished with six wickets in New Zealand's first innings yesterday in spite of looking a better batsman than bowler "as one of Muncey's pupils."

John Woodcock



Terry Power, a New Zealand cricket writer, believes in living on the job. He is camping in one of the arboreal at Lord's.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal investment and finance, pages 16 and 17

Chairman gives hint of dollar controls and tightening of credit

By Peter Vogel
 Mr. Miller, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, today called Carter Administration a "second stage" on a program. He said that the Fed's policies are likely to be tightened in the near future, but that central bankers from other countries may not be able to do so.

Mr. Miller would probably force the Fed to use the General Arrangements to borrow from the Group of Ten leading industrial countries. Citibank in New York today decided to hold its prime lending rate at 9 per cent, but money market dealers said that prime rates were certain to go up soon in view of rises over the past two weeks in other short-term rates. Moreover, latest Fed money stock figures show that the money supply growth rate is now moving well above the Fed's target level and could result in its acting soon to tighten credit.

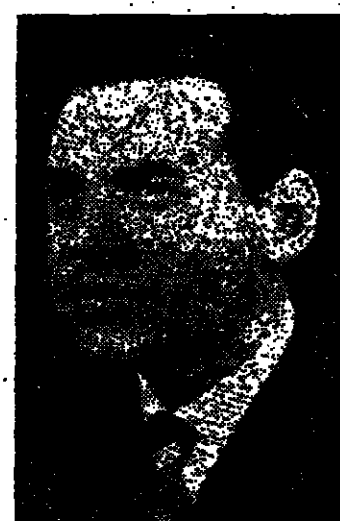
Mr. Miller told reporters from The Wall Street Journal that he still expects interest rates to peak by the end of the year. But the Journal noted he was careful to stress that they could well increase before December. Mr. Miller suggested that the Fed's policy might be vulnerable to a "money panic" because "there is an awful lot of dollars sloshing around" and this was of great concern. He said major central banks might cooperate to devise some control. The Fed chairman said he believed there might be some merit in striving to restrict the growth of the Euro-dollar market by requiring banks borrowing and

Chancellor sees 3pc growth this year

By Ronald Faux
 Mr. Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, yesterday forecast that the British economy would achieve a 3 per cent growth rate this year and that inflation would be kept in single figures at a better rate than France or America. A slow fall in unemployment and a small surplus in the balance of payments would also mark the country's economic performance, he added. Speaking at a press conference in Edinburgh, Mr. Healey said: "We are not where we want to be, and we need another term of office at least before that point is reached." He did not envisage another Budget before next April, and he declared that a key factor for the economy would be the level of settlements in the present wage round. He was not dismayed by the recent Ford claim that last year it was 34 per cent and they settled for 12.4 per cent. Settlements tend to be very different from claims, and no negotiator would be negotiating well if he did not ask for more than he expected to get.

Differences over Lyons bid settled by Allied and Pension funds

By Peter Wainwright
 Moves to heal the rift between Allied Breweries and some of its institutional shareholders over Allied's bid for J. Lyons have succeeded. Mr. George Dennis, chairman of the National Association of Pension Funds, who also runs the Post Office fund, and Mr. C. J. B. Smith, chairman of Allied Breweries, held a meeting yesterday at which Mr. Showering offered the association an extraordinary general meeting of shareholders to discuss the bid. The approach is believed to have been made by Mr. Showering, initially. The association welcomed the move and it has withdrawn its earlier proposal to resist the proposed acquisition by the company of the share capital of J. Lyons, on the terms and conditions set out in the offer document from Samuel Montagu dated 21st August 1978, to the shareholders of J. Lyons. Offer documents will be posted to shareholders in Lyons next Thursday. Allied shareholders will also be sent copies with a covering letter from Mr. Showering.



Mr. Showering

The agreement seemingly ends a public row that offered neither side satisfaction and which both regretted went as far as it did. Both sides have made concessions. The pension funds, spearheaded by a special case committee chaired by Mr. Hugh Jenkins of the National Coal Board pension fund, sought a meeting of shareholders to ask Allied to place details of the proposed deal before them for approval before the directors issued the shares needed to complete the bid. The committee based its case on the argument that Allied had "breached" an understanding in the 1976 and 1977 accounts not to issue shares that would change the nature of its business, without shareholders' agreement. Mr. Jenkins and his colleagues also obtained counsel's opinion that the understanding had been so breached. Allied too had a counsel's opinion to support its view that the understanding had been complied with, and it was incensed when the committee lobbied for institutional support without telling its members this. It argued that the request for the board to consider seeking shareholders' approval was unwelcome. It also argued strongly that it could not, after the official bid announcement, go back on its word and insist on a new condition of shareholder approval. In return for conceding a meeting the pension funds have allowed the board a resolution that, under force of it, to renege on its commitment.

Waterways wait for their ship to come home

Long port enthusiasts, gathering for the Braintree Festival in the Midlands this weekend, face an irksome journey home. The 182-year-old Braunton Tunnel on the Grand Union Canal will be closed every night - from the beginning of October will be shut down for several months - because of the risk to canal travellers from roof falls. Urgent repair work will have to be done during the winter along the 2,000 yard tunnel which represents a crucial point in the waterway network, and the main route between the north-west, the Midlands and the south. It is a victim of the mounting backlog of maintenance arrears which faces the British Waterways Board. The current cost of making good all the necessary maintenance is between £60m and £70m. The Government has allocated a total of £1m towards the cost of maintenance over the next two years. But although the Government has promised funds, and already money has been paid over to the BWB, the Government has so far refused to allow the board to go ahead with the work. Indeed, officials of the BWB are not clear on precisely what the Department of the Environment and Mr. Denis Howell, Minister with responsibility for the waterways system, have agreed to. So bemused and frustrated are the unions, that the National Association of Local Government Officers, and Mr. Geoffrey Dray, its general secretary, are seeking a meeting with Mr. Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment to push out the reasons behind the Government's refusal. They have taken the unusual step of securing attendance at that meeting of all directors of the BWB.

decision fly old sales

United States Correspondent
 Mr. August 24 - The United States official stated today that the Treasury would decide on gold sales policy for the end of the year. The sale of 750,000 ounces at starts in November; same time, informed that the Monetary Fund would gold selling plans in new months. Mr. Bergsten, Assistant of the Treasury for International Affairs, told a committee that the decision on the amount of gold on auction each month would be based on the fact that such a volume suit in significant cuts in United States trade and on the judgment of the market should be absorbed substantially by the United States without difficulty. He said that the auctions by the Treasury so far this year used about \$230m and showed that almost all gold had remained in the country, despite the fact that the largest purchases at the auctions were foreign banks and banks. He said the further Treasury sales would sharply the level of States gold imports. Months ago the Treasury had decided that it would consider the possibility of accepting foreign currencies as well as in payment for gold its auctions. The aim was to increase United States market holdings by this. Mr. Bergsten said today, that it was likely that the Treasury's decision on its gold selling plans will be announced before the end of the year, according to sources. Mr. Bergsten said that the decision was based on the current gold and currency prevailing later this year. A decision could be influenced by the International Monetary Fund which has already sold 15 million ounces at a cost of \$60m (about \$1.50 an ounce) to sell by the end of

Tokyo advances \$1,500m for uranium processing

Tokyo, Aug 25. - Japan will make an advance payment of \$1,500m (¥178.4m) to the United States for enriching uranium for Japan's nuclear power companies as part of its efforts to cur the nation's trade surplus. A basic agreement on the lump-sum payment was signed in Washington yesterday, according to the National Resources and Energy Agency. Under a Japan-United States agreement, America has been entrusted to process uranium ore bought by the Japanese companies on commission, to be paid in yearly instalments - \$1,000m by 1985 and another \$500m by 1987. But the Japanese Government decided to step up the payments to \$1,500m to secure the service of enriching uranium through a special foreign currency-lending system. The Japanese Government is also promoting emergency imports of uranium ore, worth about \$500m, held by the United States government, in an attempt to reduce the trade surplus. Japan is expected to import \$4,000m worth of uranium ore from Australia, Canada and other countries.

The economy was a good deal healthier, but still far from satisfactory. "In Britain, as in all other industrial countries, industry is working well below its full capacity and unemployment is in consequence intolerably high. It is true that last year we had an increase of some 170,000 in the number of people available for work, our unemployment is now nearly 30,000 lower than it was 12 months ago, and there are more job vacancies this summer than at any time since 1974. But we have not yet achieved that rapid fall in unemployment which is our aim." Mr. Healey said North Sea oil would play an important role in national recovery for at least the next 15 years. The economy was a good deal healthier, but still far from satisfactory. "In Britain, as in all other industrial countries, industry is working well below its full capacity and unemployment is in consequence intolerably high. It is true that last year we had an increase of some 170,000 in the number of people available for work, our unemployment is now nearly 30,000 lower than it was 12 months ago, and there are more job vacancies this summer than at any time since 1974. But we have not yet achieved that rapid fall in unemployment which is our aim." Mr. Healey said North Sea oil would play an important role in national recovery for at least the next 15 years.

Britain is taking some North Sea royalty payments in kind to extend BNOC role

By John Huxley
 In a move which will extend the role of the British National Oil Corporation (BNOC), Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, announced yesterday that he intends taking a limited amount of royalty payments in kind rather than cash from North Sea production in the second half of next year. It will be the first time that Mr. Benn, who appears to have promoted the idea personally, has made use of a clause in the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Act 1975 which allows him to request a licensee to deliver, in whole or part-substitution for cash, up to 12 1/2 per cent of oil obtained in any six-month period. The principle of payment in kind relates only to oil. Negotiations have begun with a number of undisclosed licensees on the delivery of the royalty oil. The oil will be marketed by the BNOC and the proceeds paid into the National Oil Account which was established under the Act. It is expected that in the six months BNOC will take about 1.5 million tonnes. This is somewhat less than 12 1/2 per cent of the likely production, which would amount to about 5 million tonnes. Royalty payments on last year's production of 37 million tonnes amounted to £228m. The cost incurred by the licensee in refining and delivering the royalty oil is borne by the state. Mr. Benn also has to ensure as far as possible that the licensee's arrangements for delivering the petroleum are not unduly disrupted. The move will be regarded by the oil industry as further evidence of Mr. Benn's determination that the state should enjoy a major role in North Sea operations.

Leyland warns unions at Bathgate over continuing disruptions

By Edward Townsend
 A warning about the future of British Leyland's commercial vehicle factory at Bathgate in West Lothian, where a strike by 1,800 workers has brought production to a halt, was delivered yesterday by Mr. Pat Lowry, the director of personnel. Unless understandings on the observation of procedure agreements and the maintenance of essential disciplines were reached, the factory "can only continue to slide on its downward path and the future is black indeed", he said. The company had no intention of closing the Bathgate plant permanently or of imposing a lockout, he stressed. But he said that the company's refusal to carry out work has become a way of life at Bathgate and the board of Leyland Vehicles has decided that this cannot be allowed to continue. The National Union of General and Allied Trades of Scotland, which has taken the unusual step of going behind the backs of shop stewards and calling a meeting of the Bathgate strikers today when an immediate return to work is demanded, was criticised. This comes in the face of an uncompromising statement by the Leyland Vehicles board that it does not intend to make an offer to workers involved in the latest disputes and will not deal with workers' complaints in discussions with the strikers. The current strike, involving engineering workers' rejection of terms on which they were being required to operate new computerized machine tools, is now in its third week. It is the latest of a series of unofficial stoppages and action by employees which the management claims has reduced production performance to 60 per cent of target and caused the loss of 5,000 vehicles in the first seven months of the year. The Leyland Vehicles board said that disputes and consequent layoffs had caused the loss of £10m of profit this year and vital overseas orders now being negotiated might be lost because firm delivery dates could not be guaranteed. The full impact of industrial relations problems on Leyland Vehicles, once regarded as one of the more profitable sections of British Leyland, will emerge on September 14 when Mr. Michael Edwards, BL chairman, announces the state-owned group's half-year financial results. Apart from the well-publicized troubles of the car divisions, it is already known that SP Industries, the special products division, has suffered falling production, and that the Leyland Vehicles' executives hope to arrange meetings next week with national officials of the 15 unions represented at the Bathgate plant in an attempt to win compliance with the company's demands that it be made at the factory if it was to be assured a bright future.

These include wages structure, job evaluation and the authority of the works committee. "We are determined to make Bathgate a success", Mr. Lowry said. New machinery at Bathgate is part of a £45m capital investment by BL in the commercial vehicle operation in Scotland. The bulk is at Bathgate, which employs 4,850 hourly paid and 1,400 staff workers, has a turnover of £260m and exports 46 per cent of its output. Mr. Lowry said: "We hope it can be brought home to every Bathgate employee that we cannot afford to operate the plant on the basis of the last few months." He said the plant had about 12 disputes which caused the loss of 20,000 working hours plus 120,000 hours lost because of lay-offs. Absenteeism is about 12 per cent, compared with about 8 per cent throughout the rest of Leyland Vehicles. The present strike, if it continues, could result in the bulk of the 2,250 workers at the Alton plant in Glasgow being laid off within the next 10 days. Mr. Gavin Laird, BL's national executive member for Scotland, who has called today's meeting, was rebuffed by shop stewards at a meeting on Thursday when he urged a return to work. He said that it was his duty to deal with workers' complaints about grading and bonus payments in a new agreement with the company.

Delays force shorter week for 5,000 at Austin-Morris

By Clifford Webb
 Five thousand Austin Morris engine workers are going on to short time from Monday because final assembly lines at Longbridge and Cowley are failing to keep up with their output of engines. The move is a blow for BL's hope of lifting its depressed market share and taking advantage of the continuing boom in car sales. August new car registrations are heading for an all-time record of about 270,000, which is 36,000 more than the previous record month in August, 1973. The year-end figure could well reach 1.7 million. It also pinpoints BL's problems in trying to raise production. Unless all sections of the workforce in a complicated production chain meet output schedules, losses are inevitable. The 5,000 workers manufacturing the A and E series engines, fitted to some versions of the Marina and Maxi assembled at Cowley, and the Allegro assembled at Longbridge, have been close to target while the assemblymen have been down by nearly 20 per cent. The result is that engine stocks have reached unacceptable levels and have to be brought under control by short-time working. An Austin Morris spokesman said yesterday: "It is unfortunate that the engine men's excellent response to the call for better production has led to their being laid off because assembly plants have not kept pace with them." The short-time decision will be reviewed in three or four weeks' time. Under the company's lay-off agreement the engine men, who will lose one shift a week, will not lose any wages. Melbourne closure: Leyland is to close its truck assembly plant in Melbourne, and stop its Mini production in Australia. The closure of the plant, in October, will make 120 idle. All Leyland truck assembly will then be done in Sydney. Chrysler: Australia says a strike at supplier's factory in Sydney with money has made it necessary to stand down workers next week. This will affect 1,150 workers by next Friday.

Al to place \$60m European Airbus order

l, the Israeli airline, and yesterday that it will place a \$60m order for Airbus aircraft. Al crews are to go to train on the new aircraft which are expected to be delivered by the end of the year, says a spokesman. Al spokesman said the purchase of the two aircraft at a cost of \$60m (about \$1.50 an ounce) will include spare parts and training - must still be proved by the Government. Airbus that El Al wants will seat between 260 and 280 passengers and will have a range of 2,400 nautical miles.

of the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers, falls within the Government's objective of a 5 per cent increase. It also introduces a general earnings fall-back for experienced workers of £40 a week for 40 hours. If the agreement is ratified it will operate from September 22. Members of the federation are, primarily, engaged in the manufacture of men's and boys' outerwear. Japanese steel exports dip Japan's iron and steel export shipments in July were 2.5 million tons, down 4.7 per cent from June and down 24 per cent from the same month last year, according to preliminary figures published by the Japan Iron and Steel Federation. Rolled carbon steel exports totalled 2.23 million tons, down 5 per cent in the month and down 19.4 per cent in the year.

Second half warning from Inv Tst Guernsey Investment Trust of Guernsey reports net revenue after tax for the six months to June 30, of £167,000 compared with £135,000 for the corresponding period. Net asset value per ordinary share was 212p as at June 30, as against 192p in December 31. The interim dividend has been raised from 3.7p to 4.4p to reduce disparity, but the board has decided that shareholders may receive new ordinary shares in lieu of the cash dividend. Because of the

incidence of payments of dividends to the group it is unlikely that revenue for the second half will show the increase of that in the first. Westfield success in coal gasifying test Coal "fines" ranging from dust particles to a quarter of an inch has been successfully gasified in a combination with larger "size" coal in a pilot test at Westfield, Strathclyde, managed by Conoco Coal Development. Mr. B. Carter, CCD vice-president and manager of a project to design and build a gasification demonstration plant for high sulphur, highly caking Appalachian coals in the United States said that the combination stimulated run-off-mine coal and this improved both the economics and environmental outlook of converting United States coal to synthetic natural gas.

Unions defer decision on Chrysler

By Donald Macintyre
 Union leaders will keep their options open as they planned to meet Peugeot Citroen of Chrysler's European vehicle operations at the very least until the end of next week. That was clear yesterday after they had met senior management of the company as part of their continued consultations throughout the motor industry. A preliminary report has already been prepared by the research departments of the nine big unions, and a further report commissioned from the French company of Eurofinance on what the impact on the motor industry would be of the Peugeot Citroen takeover. Union officials will be in a position to meet to discuss both documents next week, possibly before the end of the month. The idea of both reports is to provide ammunition for the question and answer sessions the unions hope to have, probably after the Peugeot takeover, with Chrysler and the French company. Senior officials of the main unions will also be travelling to Geneva for a meeting of the International Metalworkers Federation to discuss the plan with French and Spanish colleagues. The unions have already had one meeting with British Leyland on Chrysler and expect to have another. And they are also awaiting, with interest, the announcement expected next week from Peugeot Citroen on the full details of the terms of the merger plan. Union leaders have not ruled out the possibility that they might, eventually, press for a link between British Leyland and Chrysler to safeguard the British motor industry. But if they did so that would be on condition that Leyland could take over all of Chrysler.

How the markets moved

Rises			
Aeron't & Gen	7p to 87p	Lyons J	11p to 136p
Beecham Grp	7p to 717p	Magnet & South	8p to 228p
BP	6p to 908p	Monte	8p to 95p
British	12p to 47p	Pilkington	8p to 635p
Casfield	12p to 25p	Rank Org	8p to 284p
Cousin	31p to 52p	Redfern Nat	8p to 287p
Hawker	6p to 118p	Ultra	10p to 230p
Lucas	5p to 392p	Wood SW	7p to 43p
		Willis Faber	5p to 275p
Falls			
Akroyd & Sm	6p to 220p	Hong K & Shang	19p to 335p
Compton Webb	6p to 41p	Hunting Gibson	8p to 103p
De Beers	44p to 425p	Kloof	10p to 586p
Elabor	6p to 118p	Miller & Allen	10p to 173p
Hollings	6p to 78p	Union Corp	5p to 300p
Sterling			
Sterling 'lost 40 points' to \$1.9270. The effective exchange rate index was at 62.2.			
Gold 'lost \$4.25 an ounce' to \$198.375.			
SDR-5 was 1.2632 on Friday, while SDR-1 was 0.657153.			
Equities			
Edged securities held steady. Dollar premium 95.25 per cent. (Effective rate 45.06 per cent). Commodities: Refiner's index was at 1458.3 (previous 1457.4). Reports pages 17 and 18			
THE POUND			
Australia	1.74	Bank	1.78
Canada	0.72	Bank	0.75
Denmark	1.12	Bank	1.15
France	0.75	Bank	0.78
Germany	0.45	Bank	0.48
Italy	1.66	Bank	1.70
Japan	395.00	Bank	370.00
Netherlands	4.37	Bank	4.41
Norway	10.55	Bank	10.10
Portugal	88.50	Bank	83.50
Spain	147.50	Bank	140.50
Sweden	8.90	Bank	8.50
Switzerland	3.40	Bank	3.15
US \$	1.97	Bank	1.91
Yugoslavia	40.75	Bank	38.00
Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied by the Bank of England. International money rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.			
On other pages			
Bank Base Rates Today	18	Unit Trust	17
M & G			

Whitehall told the board it could recruit up to 60 additional staff to help finish the maintenance programme. It suggested that some might be engaged on five year contracts. But in a recent interview, Mr. Howell said that the board, "obviously had to recruit something like 200 additional staff", and insisted that the Government's pay policy must be upheld. Equally, the BWB was under the impression that the Government was only firmly committed to providing £11m over the next two years for the programme. Further funding would be considered in future public expenditure plans. But in another interview this month Mr. Howell said: "Over the three following years, spending will continue at the same level. This five years rolling programme can be taken as evidence of the good will of the Government to carry out the necessary work to secure the future of the canals."

Peter Hill

The Times index: 224.41 + 0.70
 The FT index: 513.4 + 4.1

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Pensions

Preserving your benefits when changing jobs

A possible problem facing anyone who leaves a pension scheme is discontinuity of protection. A widow's pension or a lump sum becomes payable on a member's death only on death before he leaves service.

In many cases the person concerned will be going straight to another employment, and he may well be entitled to the corresponding benefits under his new employer's pension scheme right from the day he joins.

Even then there may be a gap of a day or two, because people often leave one job on a Friday and start another on the following Monday. In this case, if a man is killed in a road accident, say, during the weekend, there will be no benefit from either scheme.

Not all schemes provide benefits right from the day a new employee joins; if there is a delay before you become entitled to the benefits under the new scheme, the question becomes more important. The gap could stretch to a year or two, and inevitably, out of the many thousands of people changing jobs, a few will be unlucky enough to die before the new benefits become operative, leaving their families without provision.

The most serious problems arise where a new member has to complete a specified period of employment—commonly one or two years—before becoming entitled to benefits. The purpose is to avoid the administrative work involved in bringing new members into the scheme before they have settled down—many new employees leave again within the first year or two.

The work concerns mainly the pension benefit; for this reason, an attractive compromise is to make new employees wait a year or two before entering the scheme for pension benefits but to allow them immediate entry for widow's pension and death benefit purposes.

Even in a scheme which claims to allow new members as from the day they join, the entry of new pension scheme members may be restricted to one date in the year, again for reasons of administrative simplicity. In that case the new employee could have to wait up to a year, and (depending on the scheme) might be little better off than someone joining a scheme with a formal one-year qualifying period.

Not everyone leaving a pension scheme goes to work for an employer providing similar benefits. If your new employer has no scheme, or if the benefits available are significantly smaller than those of your former employer, it is prudent to consider the matter before you commit yourself to leaving.

If you have family responsibilities, you should expect to replace, by a personal insurance

policy, the dependants' benefits which will no longer be provided for you. In most cases there will be no difficulty in arranging a suitable policy. The only problems are likely to arise if your health is suspect.

This is the reason why it is important to do something before you are committed to a move, so as to avoid the belated discovery that your health is not as good as you thought, or has taken a turn for the worse since you gave in your notice.

Schemes run by insurance companies usually allow leaving members to take out a private policy irrespective of their state of health. This facility overcomes the potential problems of timing otherwise involved in a change of job, because the completion of the new policy can be left until shortly before the final termination of the earlier employment.

It is not only useful for people who are in poor health. The last month before you leave a job is likely to be very full, with little time for the formalities associated with taking out personal life insurance.

It may well be convenient, in practice, to take advantage of this facility merely to save time and trouble. The price you pay is to forgo the opportunity to shop around. If you are prudent you will check up on the cost by comparing it with a comparable policy from other insurance companies, or by asking an insurance broker for a quotation. You then know how much you are paying for convenience and simplicity.

The range of different circumstances outlined above emphasizes the importance of considering all the implications when you change your job. It is not just a question of factors affecting the decision whether to move. In financial terms, the deferment of cover under the new scheme for a year, for example, is trivial for a young man, and would not discourage him from making the move.

What is important, however, is to identify the areas where a change of job affects your personal circumstances in a way which calls for some action on your part to maintain continuity of protection for your family just as, in more general terms, you ought to review all the implications of the move.

As a gap is going to arise when you change, do not leave it too late before doing something about it, or you may find unforeseen problems have arisen in the meantime. Death and serious ill health are understandably unpopular subjects of conversation among younger people (and older ones too, for that matter), and 999 people in a thousand can ignore them over a period of a year or two. But someone has to be the thousandth; if you have family responsibilities, the results of misfortune are too serious to justify risks.

Eric Brunet



As you sow—so shall you reap

When we moved from South London to rural Kent I fondly imagined I would never buy a vegetable again. "Aah," cooed my treasured friends (who possessed neither gumboots nor growing bags between them), "you can grow your own." But you can dismiss all those notions about the joys of hand-reared potatoes propagated by the armchair ecologists.

Growing your own vegetables is one of life's more expensive hobbies—outside hang gliding or collecting Old Masters, that is—and far more obsessive.

For a number of years my husband has been digging deeper into the mysteries of cultivation, but the geographical limitations of a town garden hampered his style. Our new home boasts a plot of land, a wood and glass contraption (I would hesitate to call it a greenhouse), wherein he sits for what seems to be most of the day, like some mad scientist in a chapel shovelling earth into a set of vegetable pots that must harbour the best nourished collection of weeds this side of the Medway.

Saturday morning is now a mad dash through the business press before setting down to Percy. There, the first home-grown courgette appeared a few weeks ago, at around

the same time as our latest infant, and was greeted with as much, if not more, enthusiasm.

Growing your own vegetables is at least, on the face of it, a healthy thing. Lettuce, for instance, appears months before there is a hint of an accompanying tomato. In order to use your crop you end up buying salad ingredients at stratospheric prices in the shops.

Everyone overdoes the lettuce. Not only in our vegetable patch, but up and down the country at this time of year stand reprobate rows of runaway plants looking like some kind of monstrous seaweed from a Dr Who epic.

As you sow, so shall you eat, and guess what's for supper tonight, folks.

Oh well, it's good for you. Don't you believe it. Every seed packet should bear a government warning that too much health can damage you. You must have heard about the vegetable addict who drank so much carrot juice that he eventually turned yellow and died.

It amazed me that each summer does not yield a crop of similar fatalities as we all turn green and expire in an orgy of lettuce consumption.

Our first celebrated cour-

Taxation: Readers ask

More on dividends—covenants—and injustices

● A reader tells me that some years ago he bought shares in a company and, since then, has received several issues of stock dividends. He would like to know whether tax will be payable on the sale of the shares.

Capital gains tax will be payable on the gain. It is necessary, of course, to know the cost price of the stock dividends. This will be one of two amounts—the cash equivalent of the dividend grossed up at the basic rate of tax, or the market value of the shares—if this is substantially higher or lower than the cash equivalent.

To calculate the gain where only part of the total holding is sold, the rule, broadly, is that shares of the same class acquired after April 5, 1965, are "pooled" with the shares and all the costs are added together.

On a part disposal, the average cost in the pool of the shares represents the cost price of each share sold, and is deducted from the proceeds. If the gain does not exceed £1,000 it will be exempt, provided other capital gains during the same tax year do not take the reader over the limit.

● The fact that the tax year and the academic year do not coincide gives rise to a number of tax queries. One of them concerns taking out a covenant in favour of a child.

The reader wants to execute a deed in favour of his son for whom he has to make a personal contribution of £900.

He asks: "Does it matter that the tax year and the academic year do not coincide, with the result that the son's income will be split between two years?"

(a) I have already made, within the current tax year, a personal contribution for the final (summer) term of the academic year just ended and

(b) part of the personal contribution for the 1978-79 academic year will fall within the 1979-80 year?

For tax purposes, what has to be looked at is the amount of payments due under the covenant for the year ended April 5, 1979. For example, if payments are made monthly—say £75 gross (£50.25 net)—and the first payment under the new deed was payable on August 1, 1978, then, for 1978/79 nine payments are due, which totals £675 gross.

The child allowance pitfalls of £165 will be lost, but tax at 33 per cent on £675 can be reclaimed by the child (assuming taxable income from all sources for the tax year does not exceed the personal allowance of £885).

● The reader adds: "Is there any difficulty about rescinding

the seven-year covenant mutual agreement after year?"

No, but I suggest it be written, signed by both parties.

● This is an opportune point to answer the reader who felt should have mentioned in previous "Readers ask" column that, in determining the amount to be paid to a child under a covenant, it should borne in mind that the child might take a holiday job.

He says: "I am concerned solely to clarify my mind the tax position which seems me to have the effect that, instead of giving a covenant for the full amount of the personal allowance, one should give a covenant for, say, three-quarters of that allowance, so as to leave scope for the student to indulge in the holiday job. Am I right?"

Before replying I will defer my position by explaining that, in answering letters, there is only space to keep to the specific point raised by the reader. The hundred-and-one "ifs" or "buts" that could be added to complete the subject must remain unsaid.

But to get to the point, not only should holiday jobs be taken into account but also other taxable income, such as from trusts, dividends and interest (excluding income which is tax exempt, for example interest on an ordinary account with the Post Office).

● The following letter is typical of many I receive, not much asking a question as asking a complaint about the justice of the tax system:

"My son has just finished a five-year course in architecture, the fourth of which he had to spend 'out'. During this year he was paid just enough to support himself, but much in excess of the limit of earnings beyond which child allowance is extinguished.

Now, because the academic year exactly six months out of phase with the tax year these earnings were distributed over two tax years. So although I had to support him for four out of his five university years I received tax relief for only one year. I was told that he had received a really good award, but seems to be a wild misjudgment of my argument."

I regret that to this, and many other complaints, receive there is no answer other than "that's the law". We are stuck with a tax system that is full of complexities and inequalities, and it is going to take the civil servants and politicians a lot of time and courage to unscramble it.

Vera Di Palma

Making the money go round

Eric Brunet

Today we continue our examination of women's financial taking, as an example, the recently married couple without children, with the help of Christine Darley-Jones, financial adviser at Sedgwick Forbes.

Barbara Fortune, aged 24, has been married for just 14 months. Her husband, Alan, 28, works as a stockbroker's clerk in the City. They pay £6 a week in rent and rates for their small, local authority flat.

Mrs Fortune earns £3,672 a year, which yields her about £200 a month. Alan Fortune's pay is at present £3,700. They are undecided about having children.

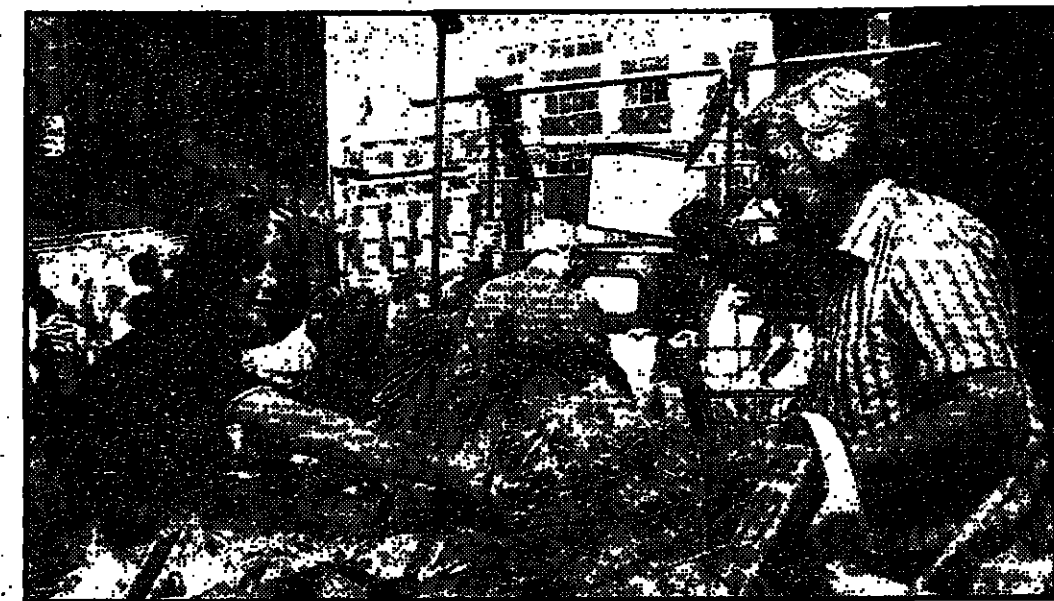
The Fortune's combined £7,372 a year, or what they receive after deductions, goes on general living expenses, buying a car, and the residue is put in the Abbey National Building Society account.

Until they found their present flat, they were living with relatives, paying £15 a week, and for a short period—still unable to save at a rate of £100 a month.

Mr Fortune's employers have arranged a non-contributory pension scheme which will give him a third of his pension on retirement, or his widow the equivalent of a year's salary should he die before then.

In addition he holds a family income benefit policy, costing £20 a month, with a basic sum of £4,335 assured with profit, carrying a benefit of £20,000 payable to his wife at £250 a quarter.

Barbara Fortune is in no pension scheme and has no life insurance at the moment. Neither of them has made a will.



Barbara Fortune puts her budget to the test in London's Leather Lane market.

Though undecided about having children, the Fortunes have one definite ambition—to own their own house.

Christine Darley-Jones comments: "On relatively limited money, the Fortunes have provided admirably for their financial future."

Alan's family benefit policy should stand them in good stead as they seek to buy their own home, and he is lucky to have an employer who already offers such generous pension arrangements.

However, for other young couples similarly placed, the husband would be well advised to make his own pension arrangements if he is not already in a company scheme.

As Mrs Darley-Jones points out, 28 may seem a young age to start thinking about pensions, but left any longer the husband could be left at retirement age with less than the full two-third entitlement.

The Fortune's major problem stems from two interrelated points. Should Barbara have children their income would be halved. Though that

is not her present intention children have a habit of happening.

Furthermore, they eventually want their own house. To stand any chance of an affordable mortgage, on their present income they must both continue working.

As Mrs Darley-Jones points out: "There are a trap with today's effects many young couples, particularly where the incomes are more or less equal."

Even on their combined salary, they could not raise much of a mortgage and would probably have to move out of London in order to buy."

This view is supported by the big building societies. As a rough indicator of what the Fortunes could expect to raise we consulted Harold Jones of the Alliance.

The answer? "Usually about three times the higher salary of the couple, regardless of whether the husband or wife earns it."

This means they could realistically expect in the order of £9,000-£10,000 at the most.

The savings key? Christine Darley-Jones says, "lies with the building society of their choice."

They should aim to put a regular sum away each month to gain the advantage of the best interest rates.

Her main point, and this is general advice, is that the Fortunes should be looking to the future, both when they earn more or when they have children.

With that in mind, it is not too early to make a will even in your 20s. That is a certain way round any complications which could arise much later over assets.

The Fortune's hopes and aspirations may not, of course, come true. Children would put an end to the chance of a house within London, where both their careers are based. They would still, though, have their present accommodation at a remarkably advantageous rent.

Mrs Darley-Jones advises they both keep working and saving. If they want that house, even the car might have to go to bring them anywhere near the £100 a month they were once able to save.

Roger Beard

Grouse

The elderly and handicapped who get hot meals from the meals on wheels service pay 61p per meal in Wandsworth, but 30p per meal in Wiltshire, and possibly even more in other local authority areas.

It means that a disabled pensioner living in Wiltshire, receiving the service daily, has to find £1.65 more a week than someone in a similar situation in Wandsworth.

The variation in charges is little less now than it was in 1973, when a DHSS study showed that the cost of meals varied from 14.4p to 44.5p, and that the subsidies local authorities choose to contribute could be anything from 5.4p per meal to 37p.

Even within London the charges vary widely, from 61p to 25p. There is further cause for concern in the fact that most authorities charge more for meals in pensioners' luncheon clubs and day centres than they do for meals served in the home, since it is generally agreed that there is social and therapeutic value in the elderly and infirm attending centres and taking their meals there.

Most of the people who need the service are on a basic nationally standardized income, determined by old age pension and supplementary benefit levels.

At present if consumers of social services could "shop around" most would move to Wandsworth, but of course there is no such freedom of choice that they can exercise. It would be fairer to all if charges could be standardized and linked directly to supplementary benefit levels.

Round-up

Barclaycard is to launch a new credit service for retailers wanting their own "in-house" credit systems. The new scheme, which will be known as Barclaycare, will provide retailers with a complete funding and administrative service and the first customers to be signed up is Dunm, the men's clothes group, which will be used as a test bed for the scheme.

The new service will provide customers with budget, option or term-accounting systems including the issue of a credit card bearing the retailer's name and the rates of interest charged will be "competitive" which in Dunm's case is 1.75 per cent a month, the same as the usual Barclaycard charge.

Credit card groups are thought to have been a little puzzled at Marks & Spencer's decision to launch its own credit scheme in conjunction with Citibank.

Motor insurance

No-claim discounts no longer curb claims

Quite apart from the fact that there are more cars on the roads, many more claims are being made against motor insurers. Statistically, the incidence of claims has risen quite sharply. Some companies have reported that instead of motorists making claims on average once in seven years the figure is now every five or six years.

One of the reasons is that the price of petrol is no longer such a deterrent to motoring. Cars are on the road more than



"Anyone, who has customarily paid for minor damage rather than make a claim, may, therefore, find it worthwhile to settle down with a calculator, slide rule or what-ever, and do some fresh calculations."

they were in the recent economy drive after petrol prices increased so sharply at the end of 1973. If cars travel a greater distance, clearly there

evidence that claims made against insurers have increased at a faster pace than the number of thefts and accidents on the road.

Insurers believe that the no-claim discount no longer inhibits motorists from making claims like it did in the past.

One of the reasons why insurers have clung to the administratively inconvenient no-claim system (worth a discount of up to 60 per cent, or more, of the basic premium) has been that it brought in an automatic increase in premium at renewal if a motorist made a claim.

And the thought of an increase deterred many motorists from making relatively modest claims. They preferred to pay the cost of minor repairs rather than make a claim which would affect a number of renewals in the future (not just the cost of the next renewal).

One reason why the no-claim

discount is no longer an effective deterrent to making claims is that because repair costs have risen more quickly than both premiums and, by definition, the "value" of the no-claim discount. Also, in these uncertain times, "a bird in the hand" in the form of a settlement of a claim now, may be a better proposition than the possibility of a lower premium in the future—which would apply only if no further claims were made during the year.

Anyone who customarily has paid for minor damage, rather than make a claim, may, therefore, find it worthwhile to settle down with a calculator, slide-rule, or whatever, and to do some fresh calculations. These should show at what point it would be sensible to make a claim, taking into account such factors as any excess in the policy, the fact that it may not only be the next premium which will be affected, and motor insurance

premiums can be expected to continue to increase. In the future—not least because more motorists are making claims.

Thefts are on the increase and so also is the number of fraudulent claims. As premiums have risen, there has been a growing trend to move away from comprehensive cover to third party, fire and theft for older cars.

If a car insured on these restricted terms should be badly damaged, some motorists have little compunction in reporting it as stolen. If it is subsequently recovered, while insurers may have their suspicions, it can be difficult to prove that the damage did not occur during the period when the car was allegedly stolen. And so the cost of repair may be settled as part of the theft claim.

Insurers are looked upon as "fair game" for this type of operation. They are doing their best to stamp out such fraud.

John Drummond

Investor's week

Dollar troubles help market to rise

It is easy to be wise after the event, said Napoleon on one of his off days (and a few other people on theirs). They were wrong. Rather, it is easy to be silly.

At first glance little or nothing happened to us market folk this week. For all the talk of stock exchange dealers tidying their books before the holiday, election jitters, rising unemployment, and the Ford 25 per cent wage claim, the FT index actually edged forward by half a point to 513.4.

Pessimists are, in other words, taking their medicine like men. Among these, just a few weeks ago, were the big insurance companies and pension funds who now run the market.

They fully expected shares to relapse and help to buy back most of the summer, trusting that Autumn would be the time to buy.

There was no relapse, institutions' nerves gave way, and they all began buying together. After a jump from 455 in the FT index in seven weeks a little profit taking last week could be forgiven. It was.

The other big event we can look back on is the flight from the dollar which the United States authorities have, even now, done little about.

There are many foreign holders of dollars, eagerly seeking safe places to put them, and clearly the dollar itself is not a safe place.

This footloose money has gone into gold (which the American administration is knocking on the head by doubling the amount sold at auction from November), other currencies, and just as importantly, into stock exchanges around the world. This, as much as anything, is why markets took off together a few weeks ago.

Many refuse to be comforted

MAIN CHANGES OF THE WEEK

Rises				
Year's High	Year's Low	Company	Change	Comment
200p	23p	Brown & Jackson	15p to 200p	Bid hopes
200p	21p	Guthrie Corp	25p to 385p	State bid talk
284p	226p	Flank Corp	25p to 284p	Toshiba deal
382p	250p	Ud Scientific	25p to 375p	Technology stock
230p	135p	Vesper	20p to 225p	Compensation
Falls				
495p	231p	Brown J	23p to 472p	Hawker hopes fade
348p	206p	Furness Withy	10p to 242p	Ship gloom
297p	242p	Lloyds Bank	9p to 268p	Corset fears
180p	134p	Marshall's Univ	7p to 160p	Karys stake
190p	155p	Vibroplant	10p to 185p	After figs

EDITED BY MARGARET STONE

UNIT TRUSTS PREDOMINANTLY INVESTING IN WALL STREET

	Size of fund (£m)	Liquidity %	Performance to August 1, 1978*				
			7 months	1 year	3 years	5 years	
Abnro Secs of America	£12	18	19.2	7.0	42.7	41.7	
N America & Int	£3.2	6	21.3	23.0	23.9	-3.6	
North American	£9.7	12	17.1	7.1	28.8	—	
American & General	£1.1	3	New fund	1.1	31.8	—	
North American	£3.7	Fully invested	—	—	—	—	
African Smaller Comp	£5	15	New fund	1.1	31.8	—	
American	£1.8	8	13.1	2.6	—	—	
American	£0.8	Fully invested	—	—	—	—	
American & General	£0.5	Fully invested	—	—	—	—	
American	£0.5	Fully invested	—	—	—	—	
General	£2.8	25-30	5.8	14.7	14.9	—	
North American	£16.5	10-15	21.4	14.5	22.9	-0.3	
of Dollar	£50	Fully invested	16.5	14.1	64.0	108.8	
American	£1.5	8	9.4	2.4	6.8	-21.3	
American & General	£5.1	16	22.2	19.8	65.5	53.2	
American	£3.7	10-15	15.8	14.4	29.6	13.0	
US Growth	£35	Fully invested	15.6	4.8	29.6	13.0	
American Growth	£14	Fully invested	11.3	4.2	12.7	—	
American	£5.2	Fully invested	13.2	14.6	38.0	2.7	
American	£3.5	Fully invested	20.7	31.0	48.0	9.5	
are Index			6.8	25.1	102.4	51.2	
rial Ordinary Index			3.1	15.3	93.4	41.1	

USIS

ng term hopes for Wall St

It was a disappointing start for investors in Wall Street. The course of the year Jones index fell some 100 points from its 1,000 level. As the fall gathered momentum, managers of trusts investing in America were under no illusion that a rise was in the air. The index fell into 1978 with a low point in the end of February, for the fall around economic front the con-omic deficit led to the of the dollar while me time fears of reces-ingly heavily in the air strike-torn winter-ore inflation was a momentum while the of the money supply out of control. t. There was a general confidence in President who seemed unable to himself as strong, gave little indication of the prob- had to be faced. Sen- was not helped by the feeling of pessimism the brokerage firms in reer which were suf-om the general malaise stock Exchange. e the economic gloom, the low level in the market at the February was sufficient in some net buyers t that the market had ar enough. But it was that investors seemed a off the gloom when ker rose by 6 per cent any days. udden rise in the mar-nspired by a combina-factors. Much of the or the rally that began 12 has been given to buyers. Figures have reduced showing that rchases by overseas in Wall Street totalled 92m (£250m) in March and per cent of this coming from United investors. Differential between orket which looked as if be near a high, and the ed level of Wall Street persuade investors that time to switch. ment was also helped by inflation speech made ident Carter. Although felt that there was little his speech, the address d that there was a

it trust performance

and specialist funds (progress this year and the past three months) change from January 1, 1978:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
Small Co's	33.9	204.6	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	47.4	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Change	42.8	120.9	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Sec	42.2	138.2	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Performance	41.5	106.7	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	40.8	105.7	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	39.9	131.7	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small In Interest	32.9		67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Recovery	32.9	239.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	32.9	135.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Spc Sits	28.3	125.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Small Cos	27.6	114.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	27.6	118.7	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	25.8	120.9	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	25.8	62.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Recovery	25.5	172.8	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Recovery	25.5	104.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Recovery	23.7	60.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Professional	23.7	35.2	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Compound	22.4	78.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	22.4	74.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Cos Share	21.4	65.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	21.6	57.9	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Prof M	20.7	85.9	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	19.5	69.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	19.4	104.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	19.5	29.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	19.1	77.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	18.0	46.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	18.0	46.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Equity	16.6	53.6	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small UK Gen A	15.3	36.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Insurance	14.5	36.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	14.5	47.3	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	14.5	66.4	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	14.4	79.2	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	14.4	54.4	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Capital F	13.9	53.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Accumulator	13.4	75.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	13.4	69.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	13.1	69.0	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	12.5	83.2	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	12.5	83.7	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	11.0		67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	11.0	45.8	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	11.0	-2.5	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	10.2	65.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	10.2	65.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	9.2	16.8	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1
Small Growth	9.2	16.8	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1	67.1</			

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Australian recession affects S. Hoffmung

By Michael Clark

S. Hoffmung, the wholesale, retail and manufacturing group, has been badly hit by the Australian recession, with most of its business carried out. Figures for the full year to March 31 show pre-tax profits sliding by £1.75m to £2.78m, leaving fully distributed earnings of 8.33p against 12.91p.

Turnover was also affected and slipped from last year's figure of £106.85m to £103.32m. While there were no directors available for comment, a statement from the company said that the board expects profits for 1978-79 will show an improvement over those for the preceding year. This is anticipated even though the first half of the current year is unlikely to reflect this trend.

Shareholders will receive a final dividend of 4.4p, making a total 6.40p gross, compared with 6.24p last time.

Briefly

OLIVETTI

Offering of 9.5m shares begins amid press speculation that the company plans to seek new international loans.

NEW DIAMOND MINE OPENS

New 22m Kongsam diamond mine, near Kimberley, South West Africa, has been opened by De Beers chairman, Mr Harry Oppenheimer.

SUMITOMO CORPORATION

Sumitomo Corporation, major Japanese trading house, says that its profit for the year ended March 31 totalled 5,366,000 yen (about £13,500,000). Sales were 2,980,000,000 yen. Sumitomo is a 50:50 joint venture company, owned by Sumitomo Corporation in Japan.

VEBA AG

West Germany largest company has reported that net profits were up a preliminary 31 per cent to DM44m (about £21m) in the first half of 1978. The company's turnover rose to DM14,800m against DM13,400m.

PAKBOES

Dutch international oil trading, transport and property group has announced net results for the six-month period January-June of 4.23m florins (about £78,500) compared with 16.7m florins. Results do not include profits on sales of oil rigs to Robeco and Shell Petroleum Fund concluded after June 30.

MARLBOROUGH FUND

Interim distribution of income units for accounting period February 21 to February 19, 1979 will be 4.50p (0.532p).

LESLIE & GODWIN

Acceptance of offer from Frank S. Hall (UK), total 94.8 per cent of ordinary and preference shares. Offers extended.

DAYV INTERNATIONAL

Group has acquired process control system of Maclov Industrial Systems for £70,000.

Options

ICI attracted what little business there was on the traded options market yesterday, taking 233 of the 471 contracts dealt.

The three months' options were particularly active with the 390 at 41p and the 420 at 8p adding 15p each. It is thought that a trader looking to do a 100 contract spread, was turned away empty handed.

In the European Options Exchange in Amsterdam, business over the past week reached a record 5,582 contracts with the big interest being in the international. The option market was helped by the rally on the Amsterdam stock exchange.

In the conventional options market in London a year was reported in New Thromorton Trust while doubles were completed in Tricentral and Barker & Dobson, which also saw a call.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	10%
Banco	10%
BCCI Bank	10%
Consolidated Cds	10%
C. Hoare & Co	10%
Lloyds Bank	10%
London Mercantile	10%
Nat Westminster	10%
Rosminster	10%
TSB	10%
Williams and Glyn's	10%

1 day deposit on sum of £10,000 and over

120,000, 12.5% over

250,000, 13.5% over

500,000, 14.5% over

1,000,000, 15.5% over

2,500,000, 16.5% over

5,000,000, 17.5% over

10,000,000, 18.5% over

25,000,000, 19.5% over

50,000,000, 20.5% over

100,000,000, 21.5% over

Commodities

The LME closed after the morning session with the tin price at 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The lead price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The zinc price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The copper price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The nickel price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The aluminium price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The tin price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The lead price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The zinc price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The copper price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The nickel price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The aluminium price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The tin price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The lead price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The zinc price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The copper price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. The nickel price was 1,750.00, up 10.00 from 1,740.00. 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At your service

■ Painted screens, shopfronts, furniture and murals are becoming both fashionable and popular. Annie Sloan can bring the tropics of the Mediterranean into your home, convert the view from a window or a blank wall into a scene of rural or exotic lushness or take farmyard animals into children's rooms. Paintings on ceiling are highly effective and painted furniture, reminiscent of Roman caravans, can become heirlooms. Contact her at 78 Bruce Road, London, E3 (01-981 1519), where she has an answering service if she is out.

■ Anita Graham-Dixon is a painter of screens whose work has been warmly recommended by two readers, one of whom described her work as superb. Her price range for maquettes and screens is from £50 to £600. Contact her at 47 Cadogan Gardens, London SW3 2TH (01-584 6251) or Burford 2027 at weekends.

■ Jenny and Desmond Page have a gallery in their home from which they sell etchings in a relaxed atmosphere at any time of the day or evening strictly by prior appointment only. Postcards are small gifts are a start and exchanges are from £150 to £600, signed by the artists. At 28 Eldon Road, London, W8 (01-937 0804).

■ Linda Manby makes boxes, for cigarettes or anything up to large blazer boxes, all with paintings of what you will on the lid—a fan perhaps,

or a spray of flowers. She loves doing Norfolk landscapes from her mobile studio, converted from a three-ton truck, and she comes from an artistic family. Her address is Smithy Studio, Falmouth, Norfolk NR28 0LQ (North Walsham 2730).

■ Polly and Barry Beckhelling work in sepia, turning photographs into pictures and exhibiting between commissions. They started with portraits, usually taken in their own homes, but now do weddings and black-and-white portraits, cottages, wedding and bleaching and reworking the original and white print. The effect is original and lasting and they work from 8 High Street, Southrepps, Norfolk (Southrepps 279).

■ At Goshall Mill, tea is more than that. It becomes a pleasant pastime over which to linger while the stream runs beneath and makes one feel cool and refreshed even before the tea arrives. Cream teas are deliciously fattening. Afterwards there are the shops selling caddy toys, brass, china, glass, toilettries, and unusual stationery. Nearby are a pottery with a lot of local craft work, a gallery in exquisite taste, the odd antique shop and something to tempt or to look at. The Old Mill is on the A25 or far from Guildford (but it will open throughout the Bank Holiday) in every day except Monday. In the season, the watercress at Goshall is marvellous, crisp, dark green, large and like nothing you normally buy in the shops.

■ Lavinia Anlaby Legard tells me she is young, blonde, well educated and attractive. She also has a Rolls-Royce to meet overseas visitors, take them shopping or to restaurants, take them where else. A trained British tourist guide, she can organize special trips and tours. She works like a demon, days, nights and week-ends, and is punctual and punctilious. Her answering service has to take most messages but she can send you a price list from Houseboat Anlaby, 106 Cheyne Walk, London, SW10 (01-352 3126).

■ Lois Valera is yet another of our ladies offering personal services in the art sector. She specializes in miniatures on ivory or ivoryine and can bring faded photographs of past ancestors into colourful portraits for sale. Write or take portrait commissions for sale. Write or stock of paintings at Kents Farm, Middlesex, near Stockbridge, Hants SO20 8EQ (Wallop 298).

■ Georgina Dayrell is a freelance florist in London who will do your wedding, parties and window boxes with the latest flower arrangements and then take over maintenance of the boxes which she can have tailor-made by an experienced carpenter while she subcontracts the really heavy work. Companies praise her efficiency at maintaining a colourful display and private clients praise her dried flowers, pomanders and Victorian domes as much as her work with fresh flowers. 27 Edith Grove, London, SW10 (01-351 3492, 24 hours answering service).

■ If I had £1 for every call readers asking where to get this, that or the other, I would be wealthy, though rather less so than Doreen, who takes so many of them for me. Often, the things readers want are special and hard to trace, but even more often the local yellow pages telephone book would solve all their problems. Yet, when we suggest just that, they exclaim with surprised and mistrustful words, indicating also that they never thought of their wants being included in that kind of official publication.

A synagogue, boarding for animals, bookbinders or take-away food shops are only a few of the categories of services in the long list. A friend wanted a hideous, personal sporting trophy that he and a crazy friend compete for each year, and then he wanted it engraved. Yellow Pages did it for him. Your nearest vacuum cleaner, repairer, ironmonger, estate agent, lawyer and supermarket may well be listed. The Post Office does all the listings so the many omissions and errors must be laid at their door but the books are too useful to overlook. I use mine so often that I cannot imagine anyone being without them. If you are kind, you will pass on the omissions to the Post Office.

By and large, so many of the entries are backed by clear, good-sized display advertisements that names and services are easy to pick out. In the meantime, anyone setting up home might like the free booklet of advice on the subject from Yellow Pages Booklet Offer, 53 George Row, London, SE16 4UQ.

■ The Queen brand of cosmetics were the first of the group now described as hypo-allergenic. The phrase had not been invented in 1927, when Queen was born as a concept, and the range was described then as non-irritant. The formulae, developed over some ten years, were prepared in London after a group of consulting dermatologists got together at Great Ormond Street hospital to exchange notes on the allergic reactions of their patients to any beauty aid or treatment. They then started work with an analyst and a pharmacist, a pair who owned a number of chemists' shops called Bourdells, mainly trading between Southampton Row and Lambeth Conduit Street. The name was taken from nearby Queen Square. In time, the products, after many years testing under medical supervision, and never on animals, acquired an international reputation despite no advertising and little promotion.

■ Signs of the times—Linguaphone starts a new Arabic course from September 14. Thirty lessons on cassette pack into a carrying brief-case and Linguaphone claims reasonable results for students within three months. Inquiries to Linguaphone's Institute at 207 Regent Street, London W1.

■ Cornelian and rose quartz, wood and silver, jade and jasper, enamel and pearls, tortoiseshell and feathers. They string beads of these or set them to make original jewelry in China. Do not take the slow boat but get down to Liberty of Regent Street, London. Very characteristic and slightly baroque so not to everybody's taste, but unusual. Medium to high prices.

The restrictions on promotion were in order to make sure that demand was never big enough to tempt the manufacturers into mass production and so perhaps lead to some sacrifice or compromise of quality. The medical profession, hospital specialists and dermatologists are the main spreaders of the word although a good many customers are introduced by existing, happy users. Top beauty salons use Queen and so, lately, have I been doing so.

I like them and what I like most about them is their familiarity, the fact that they offer what I grew up with, before moisturizers, excellent as they are, robbed me and many like me of the old favourites like cold cream (did anyone not have a Ponds Cold Cream about the house) and lovely, greasy cleansers of the kind I used in the theatre. What is more, I know quite a number of people who still buy the theatrical cold creams because they do the job so fast and relatively inexpensively. I

am sure that the hypo-allergenic claims for Queen are to be trusted after all these years, but not being subject to allergies with my Rubinstein Skin Life products, I could hardly test the claims.

I did offer the Medicated Cleansing Cream to a teenager going through a mildly spotty stage and worried about it. She has now been trying it for three months and is convinced that it has done her a lot of good—or was it love for the first time? It sells in two sizes at about £1.06 (224 cc) and £1.35 (448 cc). For me, it was the Theatrical Cold Cream that won my allegiance and I understand that is the continuing best seller. In one big size (180g) for £1.17 it is terrific value. It is not too messy yet it is oily and melts when smeared over warm skins so that make-up wipes off easily. There is a nourishing skin cream for throat, eyes and so on, complexion milk, ordinary cold cream, muscle oil, astringent and freshener, an eye-lash

cream and a really light but old-fashioned cold cream.

For make-up there is a foundation cream (natural, not tinted), lipstick and the finest face powders with lovely old names like Rachel, Ochre and Rose. A cream rouge matches the lipsticks. There is obviously a talcum powder, another comparative rarity today, and there are sunburn lotions, seaside creams, shampoo and hand cream. The bland soap is something I really like, and it does dather a little though most such good soaps do not (about 39p and 65p).

Two things puzzle me. The prices are low enough to make me think the present pricing policy might be somewhat adrift and have to be changed for the company's own health before too long. The other is the packaging. Kept simple in order to put as much as possible of the costs into the ingredients and the quality-controlled production, it is attractive enough but rather

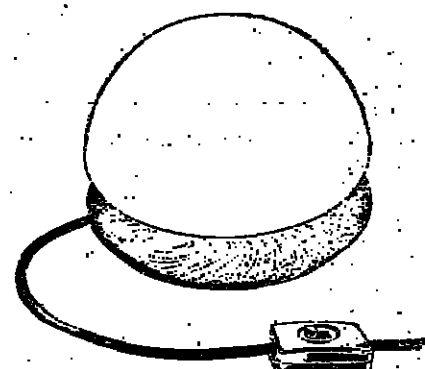
uncoordinated. Deep mauve and white are the colours of the jars and bottles which are then put into a black-and-white box with motifs that seem to bear little relation to the mauve-and-white. In a way, I find that somewhat endearing, so different from the usual marketing approach, but it does seem to muddle customers and to militate against obvious recognition of the products if some are unpacked on a counter.

However some changes are in the offing. A new majority shareholder is talking about the future, and the need to preserve quality but to extend the distribution and to hold prices down as well as to start appealing to young people whose skins need even more care, in my view, than the older ones.

A number of good, independent chemists have the range, including branches of Savory and Moore, John Bell and Croydon of London's Avenue, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 4TL, Wigmore Street; and Bourdells of Lambeth Conduit Street, London-WC1.

They will also post anything to any where in Britain (overseas postage rates on request) at no charge for orders above £25 and at normal rates for smaller orders. Price lists and leaflet from Queen Cosmetics, 22 Warren Road, Orpington, Kent.

Having mentioned that Queen is never tested on animals, the same is true of the Beauty without Cruelty cosmetics which are sold through their own boutiques, some chemists or by mail. This organization has a long list of other manufacturers who make cruelty-free cosmetics, perfumes, all kinds of toilet preparations, clothes, shoes, handbags and anything you might want that has never involved cruelty to animals. I know I have often mentioned the organization but there are always readers who missed such recommendations and who would like to know that they can get details from "Beauty without Cruelty", 100 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0LP. Members get copies of the magazine, Compassion, free of charge.



■ A simple lamp but smart for any kind of room or office. The wood base is in stained black or natural pine and the opalescent shade takes small 40 or 60-watt bulbs. The 60-watt large size BC GLS also fits. Both would be available from the London Lighting Company which sells this lamp at £9.65 for the 6-inch diameter or £11.10 for the 8 inch. Ask for the Acorn Lamp, London W19.

London Lighting also sells some really smooth dimmers, slim boxes that lie almost flush

to the wall and are finished in satin brass or chrome in either single or 2, 3 and 4 gang switches. Touch them and they dim or brighten, according to the length of time your finger stays on the front surface. A tiny red indicator light leads you to the switch in the darkest room and the prices are from £13.99 to £53.94. London Lighting's branches are at 37/39 George Street, London W1, or at 173 Fulham Road, SW3. Clearly, they cannot post the lamps but might manage the switches.

name of a cream which can be used by the rest of the family and costs 60p for an 80ml tube from most chemists and baby shops.

The last time I came across Supple, Maws product to prevent stretch marks, it was an oil, and one man told me that his wife carried around her own personal oil well

because it seemed to seep in to so many things. My daughter and her friends therefore took to Prenatal, a wonderful cream which was once in the Rubinstein lists, having been discovered by its British chairman, and is now in the capable and pure hands of the A. H. Robins pharmaceutical company of Redcliff Way, Horsham, Sussex.

Prenatal became so popular that Supple found itself relaunched as a cream and the man who discovered Prenatal himself vouchsafed that it is good. Both are at most good chemists. Maws, should you have any problems about stockists, is at Leatherhead, Surrey.

■ The functional Airport may not seem to have any links with some dainty and romantic candlesticks, but Shireclose is the link since it distributes both. These candle holders are made in singles, very pretty if set one at each place for dinner, doubles, and in four-branch "trees" which look most effective alight. Also in the range is a more traditional three-branch candelabra. These Quist candlesticks are of metal, with fine petals and leaves played either with silver or gold and candlewax roses sit on them to glimmer through the meal.

The gold-plated series sells at from £6.50 for the single to £14.95 for the tree and £32 for the candelabra. Silver-plated equivalents are from £5.95 to £11.95. The roses are green with the gold-plate, pink with the silver (replacements 75p each). At Bourne and Hollingsworth, Whiteleys and quite a number of stores and shops around Britain. More about stockists from Shireclose, 1/7 Palmerston Road, London SW19.

■ Why it should be called an Airport, I do not know, but it is a giant vacuum flask from which you can fill cups or glasses at the touch of a button. A safety disc on the lid is turned to a blue indicator to release the top for filling and then back to red for operation. Hold the cup under the spout and you get no spills. The handle makes it readily portable and it stands about 15in tall.

The canister is of white metal with various designs—the most attractive being the floral ones with red poppies or other flowers. The inside is like any vacuum flask and it can be replaced if broken by unscrewing a disc in the base.

The Airport holds 1.9 litres and keeps the contents either piping hot or icy cold. Popular in small offices or large homes and frequently taken on picnics, boats, and day out anywhere. In London at Army and Navy Stores, Whiteleys of Queensway, Alders of Croydon and similar stores at about £16. For out-of-London stockists contact Shireclose, 1/7 Palmerston Road, London SW19.

■ Florissa is the latest perfume from Floris, the first for 20 years and, since I remember

well the launch of the last, it made me feel rather old until I tried it, found it sweet and fresh at the same time and began to feel rejuvenated and better. It has good staying power too. Naturally all the usual bath products, room scents and other Floris favourites are all matched and Florissa is now at all Floris stockists throughout Britain as well as that shop from which it is so hard to tear yourself away, the chief Floris at 89 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6JH (01-930 2685/4136). Floris does a great deal of mail order and leaflets are available on all their products.

■ The Soviet Government has launched a set of six silver and one gold coin—a first in both cases—to commemorate the Olympic Games in 1980. The coins are legal tender in the USSR.

The gold coin, with a face value of 100 roubles, weighs 17.28 grams and contains 900 parts per 1,000 of pure gold, giving it a high purity standard (21.36 carats). The slightly larger silver coins are as pure. Only 450,000 will be minted for world distribution.

Additional silver, gold and platinum coins will be launched at six-monthly intervals and payments may be made on a monthly subscription basis. Prices and all other details from Spink and Sons, Modern Coins Dept, PO Box 222, Croydon, Surrey, or Paramount International Coins, Mortimer House, 230 Leinster Hill, London SW11.

